BATMAN

FEB.
NO. 81
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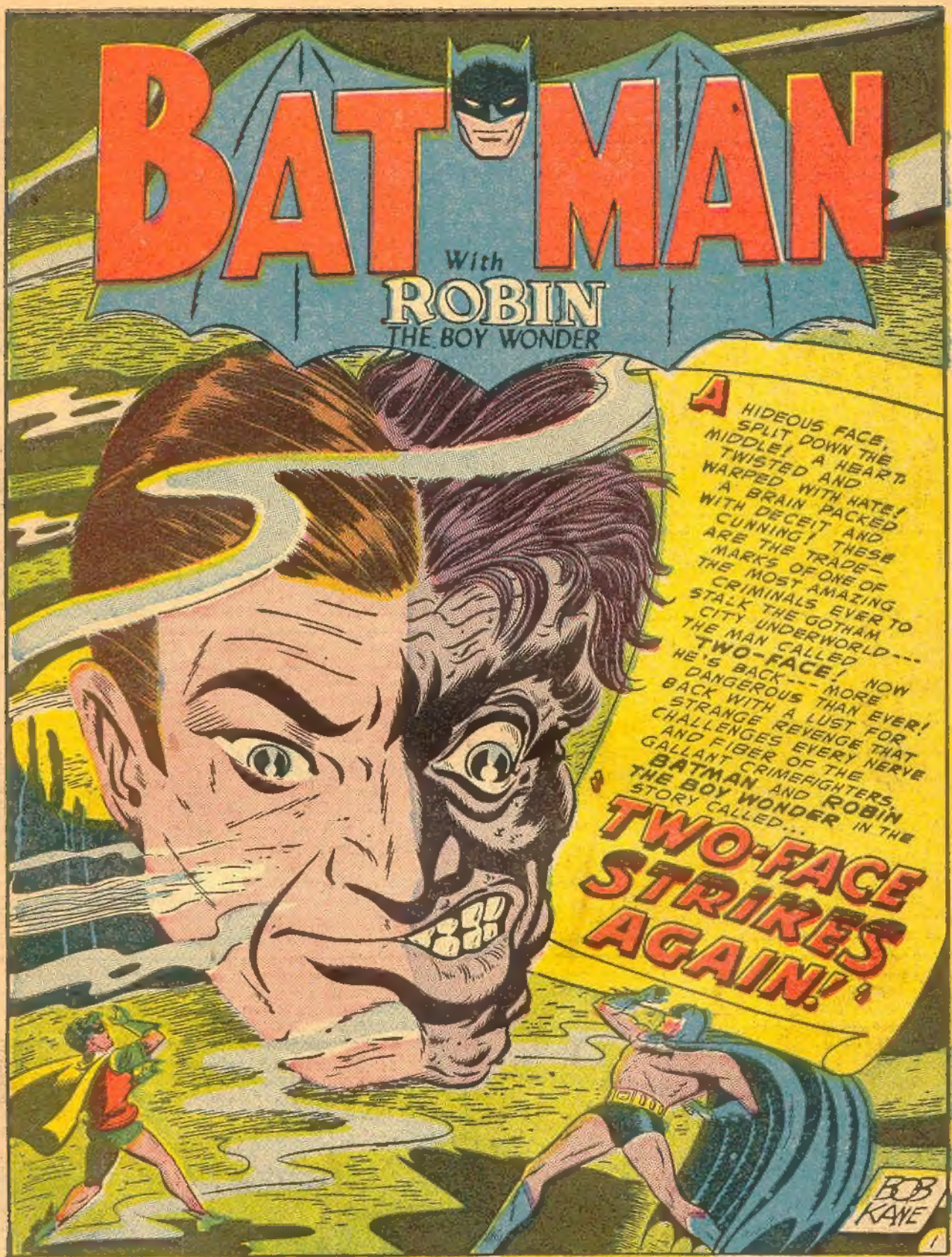
DC
SUPERMAN
NATIONAL COMICS

BATMAN

A BIZARRE VILLAIN MENACES GOTHAM CITY WHEN...

"TWO-FACE STRIKES AGAIN!"


BAT MAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
A HIDEOUS FACE, SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE! A HEART TWISTED AND WARPED WITH HATE! A BRAIN PACKED WITH DECEIT AND CUNNING! THESE ARE THE TRADE-MARKS OF ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING CRIMINALS EVER TO STALK THE GOTHAM CITY UNDERWORLD--- THE MAN CALLED TWO-FACE! NOW HE'S BACK--- MORE DANGEROUS THAN EVER! BACK WITH A LUST FOR STRANGE REVENGE THAT CHALLENGES EVERY NERVE AND FIBER OF THE GALLANT CRIMEFIGHTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER IN THE STORY CALLED...
TWO-FACE STRIKES AGAIN!
BOB KANE

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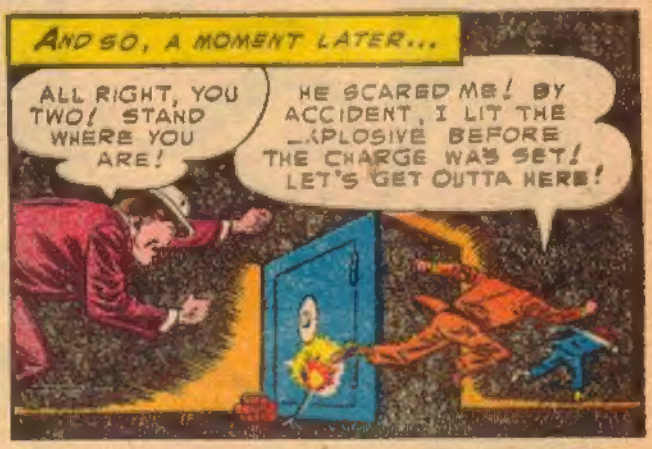
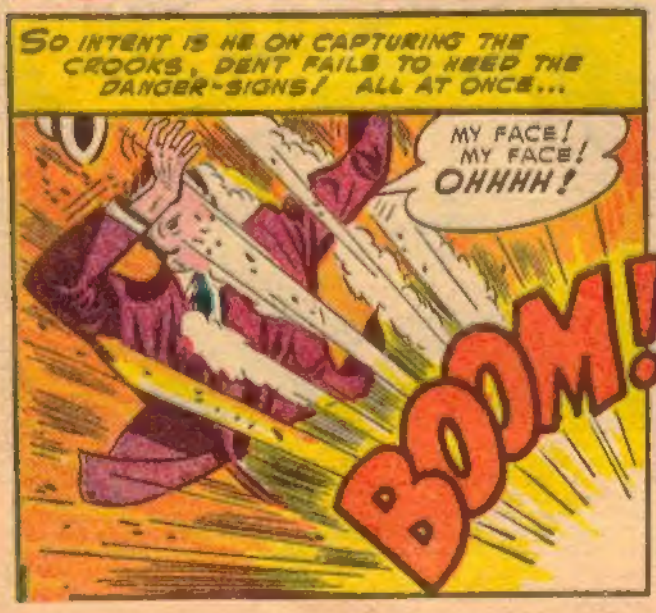
ONE EVENING, IN DOWNTOWN GOTHAM CITY...
LOOK, DEAR! THAT MAN PASSING US! THAT'S HARVEY DENT, THE LAWYER — THE MAN ONCE KNOWN AS TWO-FACE! FUNNY, I WAS JUST READING HIS STRANGE STORY IN THIS MAGAZINE!
ALL MAGAZINES

HOW'S THAT FOR COINCIDENCE! I BUY A MAGAZINE WITH TWO-FACE'S STORY IN IT— AND A MOMENT LATER, HE COMES WALKING BY IN THE FLESH!
THE STRANGE CAREER OF TWO-FACE
HARVEY DENT WITH HIS FACE RESTORED BY PLASTIC SURGERY
HARVEY DENT AS HE LOOKED AFTER THE ACCIDENT WHICH TURNED HIM INTO TWO-FACE, THE DESPERATE CRIMINAL
By Bob Kane

YES, HARVEY DENT IN THE FLESH---AND COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE TWIST OF FATE THAT LIES WAITING FOR HIM JUST MINUTES AWAY!
SAFE-CRACKERS AT WORK! THERE WAS A TIME-- WHEN I WAS TWO-FACE-- THAT I WOULD PASS A THING LIKE THIS RIGHT BY! BUT NO! AS A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN, I MUST ACT!
TV SALES
Sale


AND SO, A MOMENT LATER...
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO! STAND WHERE YOU ARE!
HE SCARED ME! BY ACCIDENT, I LIT THE EXPLOSIVE BEFORE THE CHARGE WAS SET! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!


SO INTENT IS HE ON CAPTURING THE CROOKS, DENT FAILS TO HEED THE DANGER-SIGNS! ALL AT ONCE...
MY FACE! MY FACE! OHHHH!
BOOM!

RUSHING BLINDLY OUT OF THE STORE, HIS FACE SEARED WITH PAIN, DENT HAILS A CAB WHICH TAKES HIM HOME. THEN, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS BEDROOM...
LOOK AT ME! THE EXPLOSION HAS UNDONE ALL MY PLASTIC SURGERY-- I HAVE BECOME TWO-FACE!! TWO-FACE TWO-FACE!!
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AND NOW IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT MORE THAN DENT'S FACE HAS BEEN RE-INJURED! THE SCAR REACHES RIGHT THROUGH TO HIS BRAIN!

THIS SETTLES IT! THIS **PROVES** I WAS **MEANT** TO BE A CRIMINAL! FATE HAS DECREED IT! MY DOCTOR WARNED ME AGAINST ANY FUTURE ACCIDENTS--SAID PLASTIC SURGERY COULDN'T BE PERFORMED A SECOND TIME! I'M DOOMED TO LOOK THIS WAY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!

ALL RIGHT! IF THAT'S THE WAY IT MUST BE, I'LL GIVE IT THE FINAL TEST! I HAD A DUPLICATE MADE OF MY FAMED **TWO-FACED** COIN, TO KEEP AS A MEMENTO! I'LL SOON SEE IF ITS DECISION CONCURS WITH THAT OF FATE!

ABRUPTLY, TWO-FACE FLIPS THE BIZARRE COIN INTO THE AIR, THEN, AS IT BOUNCES AND FINALLY SETTLES ON THE FLOOR--

THE **EVIL** FACE UP! THE CRIMINAL CAREER OF **TWO-FACE** BEGINS AGAIN! AND I MUST THINK UP SOMETHING **VERY SPECIAL** TO FIT THE OCCASION!

SOON AFTER...

AHHH-- HERE IT IS! ONE FACE OF THE COIN MARRED--- THE **EVIL** FACE! IF THAT COMES UP WHEN I SPIN THE COIN--THEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** BEWARE!

NEXT EVENING AT THE GOTHAM CITY CIRCUS, THE AUDIENCE GETS AN UNEXPECTED SHOCK...

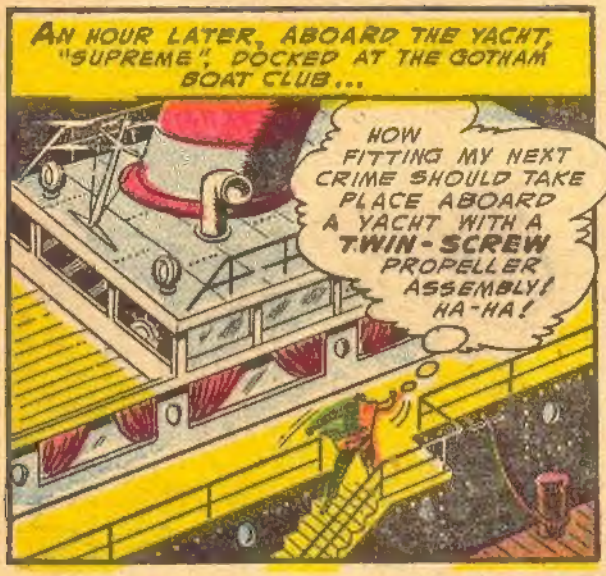
LOOK! IT'S **TWO-FACE!** HE'S BACK IN OUR MIDST!

STILL USING HIS PERSONAL SYMBOL, THE NUMBER **TWO!** SEE? TWO WHITE HORSES! HELP!

HE'S PROBABLY AFTER THE GATE RECEIPTS! CALL THE POLICE!

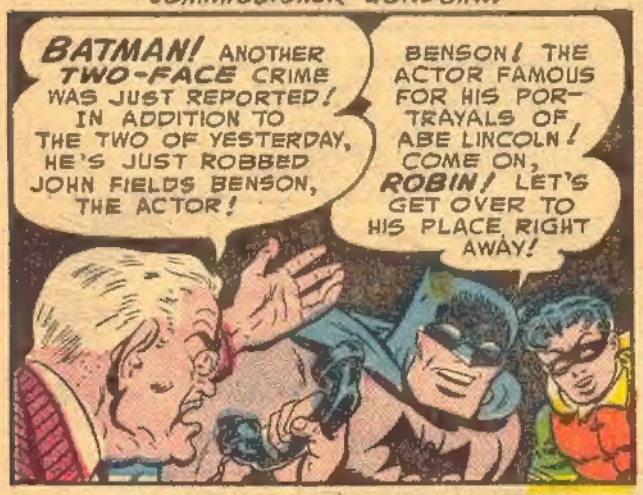
BUT THE SCARRED CRIMINAL DOES NOT ATTACK THE BOXOFFICE, AS EXPECTED! INSTEAD, HE BARGES INTO THE DRESSING-ROOM OF TARANDO, WORLD-FAMOUS CLOWN!

AHH! TARANDO, THE CLOWN! KNOWN TO KEEP A FABULOUS DIAMOND STICKPIN COLLECTION IN HIS DRESSING-ROOM! I'LL JUST TAKE THEM IF YOU DON'T MIND!


AN HOUR LATER, ABOARD THE YACHT, "SUPREME", DOCKED AT THE GOTHAM BOAT CLUB...
HOW FITTING MY NEXT CRIME SHOULD TAKE PLACE ABOARD A YACHT WITH A TWIN-SCREW PROPELLER ASSEMBLY! HA-HA!

IN THE NEXT MOMENT...
SO YOU'RE CHARLES FORD, THE MILLIONAIRE DEEP-SEA DIVER! AHHH--- AND THERE ARE THE GEMS FROM THE MANY BURIED TREASURES YOU FOUND ON THE OCEAN BOTTOM! A NICE HAUL, EH??? HA-HA!
TWO-FACE! HELP!

NEXT DAY AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** RESPOND TO AN URGENT SUMMONS SENT OUT BY COMMISSIONER GORDON...


BATMAN! ANOTHER TWO-FACE CRIME WAS JUST REPORTED! IN ADDITION TO THE TWO OF YESTERDAY, HE'S JUST ROBBED JOHN FIELDS BENSON, THE ACTOR!
BENSON! THE ACTOR FAMOUS FOR HIS PORTRAYALS OF ABE LINCOLN! COME ON, ROBIN! LET'S GET OVER TO HIS PLACE RIGHT AWAY!

SOON AFTER, IN THE ACTOR'S APARTMENT...
I'D JUST COME HOME AFTER THE MATINEE PERFORMANCE-- I DON'T BOTHER TO REMOVE MY MAKE-UP BETWEEN THE MATINEE AND EVENING SHOW-- WHEN TWO-FACE BURST IN UPON ME!
AND HE STOLE YOUR VALUABLE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN'S PAPERS! HMMM--- THIS IS NOT LIKE THE TWO-FACE OF OLD!

LATER, IN THE SECRET BATCAVE, AS THE FAMED LAWMEN REVERT TO THEIR EVERY-DAY ROLES AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
TWO-FACE HAS COME BACK-- HOW, WHY, WE DON'T KNOW AS YET! BUT EVEN MORE PUZZLING ARE THE CRIMES HE'S COMMITTING! THERE'S NO PATTERN TO THEM!
MAYBE HE'S JUST MAD--- AND HE'S STRIKING WHEREVER HIS FANCY CARRIES HIM!

THEN...
NO, DICK! I'VE GOT IT! I'VE FOUND THE THREAD THAT BINDS THESE THREE CRIMES TOGETHER!
SNAP!
NOW ABOUT YOU??? ARE YOU AS CLEVER AS THE GREAT BATMAN? HAVE YOU CAUGHT ON TO TWO-FACE'S SCHEME?

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE BATCAVE CRIME LAB...

YOU SEE, DICK?? ALL OF TWO-FACE'S LATEST VICTIMS HAD ONE THING IN COMMON-- IN A SENSE THEY TOO WERE MEN WITH TWO-FACES!

OF COURSE! SO THAT'S TWO-FACE'S NEWEST WRINKLE! HE'S APPARENTLY DECLARED WAR ON ALL THE OTHER TWO-FACES IN GOTHAM CITY!

TARANDO-THE CLOWN WITHOUT MAKE-UP

TARANDO THE CLOWN WITH MAKE-UP

CHAS. FORD AS HE REGULARLY APPEARS

CHAS. FORD, IN DEEP SEA DIVER'S OUTFIT

ACTOR JOHN BENSON WITHOUT MAKE-UP

BENSON IN HIS LINCOLN MAKE-UP

NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW TWO-FACE IS WORKING, IT NARROWS THE FIELD OF POSSIBLE FUTURE VICTIMS! WE'LL COMPILE A LIST OF ALL PEOPLE WHO GO THROUGH LIFE WITH TWO FACES!

MEANWHILE, IN HIS HIDEOUT, THE BIZARRE JEKYLL-AND-HYDE CRIMINAL ENJOYS HIS INITIAL TRIUMPHS!

YES! I'M TAKING MY REVENGE ON ALL OTHERS WHOSE LIVES DEPEND ON TWO-FACES! AND NOW I'M READY TO ENLARGE MY OPERATION BY HIRING A GANG. IF YOU'RE READY, WE'LL PROCEED WITH THE INTERVIEWING!

LOOKIT THIS PLACE! EVERYTHING IN TWOS!

THEN, AS THE HOODLUM APPLICANTS LINE UP, EACH FINDS HIS CHANCE FOR A JOB HANGS ON THE TURN OF A COIN...

YOU'RE LUCKY! MY TWO-FACED COIN LANDED BAD SIDE UP! THAT MEANS YOU'RE HIRED AS PART OF MY GANG!

NEXT DAY, THE TWIN-TERRORED CRIMINAL IS READY TO STRIKE AGAIN!

AHHH! MY NEW TWO-TONE CAR! JUST THE THING TO CARRY US ON OUR NEXT JOB AGAINST A MAN WITH TWO FACES!

SAY! I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHIN', BOSS! YOU KNOW WHO HAS TWO FACES? BATMAN!

OF COURSE! DON'T YOU THINK I KNEW THAT?? THE ATTACK AGAINST BATMAN WILL BE THE CLIMAX OF MY CRIME WAVE! BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST! OUR NEXT VICTIM WILL BE "CHICAGO AL" GARVER!

"CHICAGO AL"--- THE BIG-TIME GAMBLER?? I DON'T GET IT! SINCE WHEN DOES HE HAVE TWO FACES?

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE BATCAVE, AS THE POLICE RADIO CALL ARRESTS THE ATTENTION OF BATMAN AND ROBIN...
A PEDESTRIAN REPORTS SEEING TWO-FACE AND A CAR FULL OF THUGS SPEEDING NORTH ON GOTHAM POINT ROAD...
SOMEONE'S SPOTTED TWO-FACE! COME ON, BATMAN!
THERE ARE ONLY FOUR BIG ESTATES OUT ON GOTHAM POINT! WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE WOULD INTEREST TWO-FACE!
BUT I KNOW THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE, AND IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! THERE'S EDGAR FANLEY, THE AUTHOR -- DR. FRIEND, THE SURGEON -- CHICAGO AL GARVER, THE GAMBLER -- AND NICK REO, THE RESTAURANT OWNER! WHY WOULD TWO-FACE ATTACK ONE OF THEM?
IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE IS EATING UP THE MILES EN ROUTE TO GOTHAM POINT! ALL AT ONCE...
I'VE GOT IT, ROBIN! TWO-FACE IS PROBABLY GUNNING FOR "CHICAGO AL!" HE'S A MAN WITH TWO FACES! HIS REGULAR ONE--- AND THE ONE HE PLAYS CARDS WITH, HIS POKER FACE!
WOW! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! BUT IT MAKES PLENTY OF SENSE!
AND SOON AFTER, AT THE GAMBLER'S PALATIAL MANSION...
YOU WERE RIGHT, BATMAN -- THERE THEY ARE!
IT'S BATMAN! HURRY, MEN--- UP ON THAT GIANT POOL TABLE!
"CHICAGO AL" STARTED AS A RACK BOY IN A POOL HALL -- AND HAD THIS GIANT TABLE BUILT AS A MEMENTO. COME ON, ROBIN! LET'S HOPE TWO-FACE IS BEHIND THE EIGHT-BALL!
THEN, ATOP THE ENORMOUS POOL TABLE...
BATMAN! THEY UP-ENDED A RACK OF BALLS -- WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DODGE THEM!
THOSE GIANT POOL BALLS COULD CRUSH A MAN! WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST, ROBIN!
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ALL AT ONCE...
THIS IS THE QUICKEST WAY OUT OF HERE! GET SET FOR A TOBOGGAN SLIDE, ROBIN!
I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
AND, AS THE DARING LAWMEN WHIZ DOWN THE RUNWAY THAT NORMALLY CARRIES THE BALL FROM A POCKET TO THE END-TRAY...
BATMAN I'M STUCK! MY FOOT'S CAUGHT!
GOLLY! ONE OF THOSE LOOSE BALLS IS ABOUT TO DROP INTO THIS POCKET! IT'LL COME ROARING DOWN THIS CHUTE LIKE AN EXPRESS TRAIN! I'VE GOT TO SAVE ROBIN!
BACK-TRACKING SWIFTLY, BATMAN MANIPULATES HIS SILKEN ROPE WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE RAPIDITY...
QUICK THINKING, BATMAN! THAT NET YOU MADE OUT OF YOUR SILKEN CORD HAS TRAPPED THE BALL AND SAVED MY LIFE!
NOW TO FREE YOU AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!
LATER...
THEY'RE GONE! THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR MISHAP UNDER THE POOL TABLE TO MAKE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE!
BUT AT LEAST YOU SCARED TWO-FACE OFF BEFORE HE COULD CARRY OUT HIS PLAN! HE WAS GOING TO CLEAN OUT EVERY CENT I HAD IN MY SAFE!
YOU KNOW, ROBIN, I THINK WE CAN SCRAP OUR LIST OF POSSIBLE TWO-FACE VICTIMS. IT APPEARS NOW THAT TWO-FACE ISN'T GOING TO BE AS OBVIOUS AS WE THOUGHT!
WHICH MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO BE MORE ALERT THAN EVER TO SPOT HIS NEXT MOVE!
NEXT MORNING, AS BRUCE AND DICK FINISH THEIR BREAK-FAST IN THE WAYNE HOME...
DICK--- THAT HEADLINE! IT GIVES ME AN IDEA JUST WILD ENOUGH TO FIT INTO TWO-FACE'S CURRENT SCHEME!
WAIT-- I THINK I FOLLOW YOU! WHEN AN ORIENTAL IS DISGRACED, IT IS CLAIMED THAT HE "LOST FACE"! THAT WOULD GIVE THIS FELLOW TWO FACES--- HIS REAL ONE, AND THE ONE HE "LOST"! COME ON! LET'S CHECK IT!
The Gotham Gazette
JAPANESE ENVOY RECALLED; CITED FOR MISCONDUCT BY OWN GOVERNMENT
7

AND AS THE LAWMEN RACE TO THE SUBURBAN HEADQUARTERS OF THE FOREIGN DIPLOMAT...
THEY WENT TO SOME EXPENSE TO ERECT THAT STATUE OF ONE OF THEIR NATIONAL HEROES!
WOW! SOME LANDMARK!
A MOMENT LATER...
NOW THAT WE'VE ROBBED OUR TWO-FACED DIPLOMAT, I'LL JUST LEAVE MY CALLING CARD--BY MAKING THIS A TWO-FACED HERO! HA-HA!
ROBIN! LOOK!
SWIFTLY THE DARING DUO SCALES THE GIANT STATUE--- AND THEN A WEIRD BATTLE BEGINS!
BATMAN AGAIN! VERY CLEVER--TRACING ME HERE! BUT NOW YOU'LL REGRET IT!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, TWO-FACE!
ABRUPTLY...
BATMAN! THE PICK-AXE CUT MY ROPE! I'M FALLING!
HE'LL BE KILLED--- UNLESS I DO SOMETHING FAST!
THEN, WITH SWIFT-AS-LIGHTNING MOVES, BATMAN COILS ONE LEG AROUND HIS ROPE AND DIVES OFF AFTER ROBIN...
HURRY, ROBIN! THE OLD TRAPEZE ROUTINE! TWIST UP AND CLIMB OVER ME TO THE ROPE!
TENSE MOMENTS LATER...
MADE IT! OKAY, BATMAN--GIVE ME YOUR ARM, AND I'LL YANK YOU UP!
RIGHT! I'LL SAY ONE THING--- IT'S LUCKY WE'VE MASTERED THESE CIRCUS ROUTINES!
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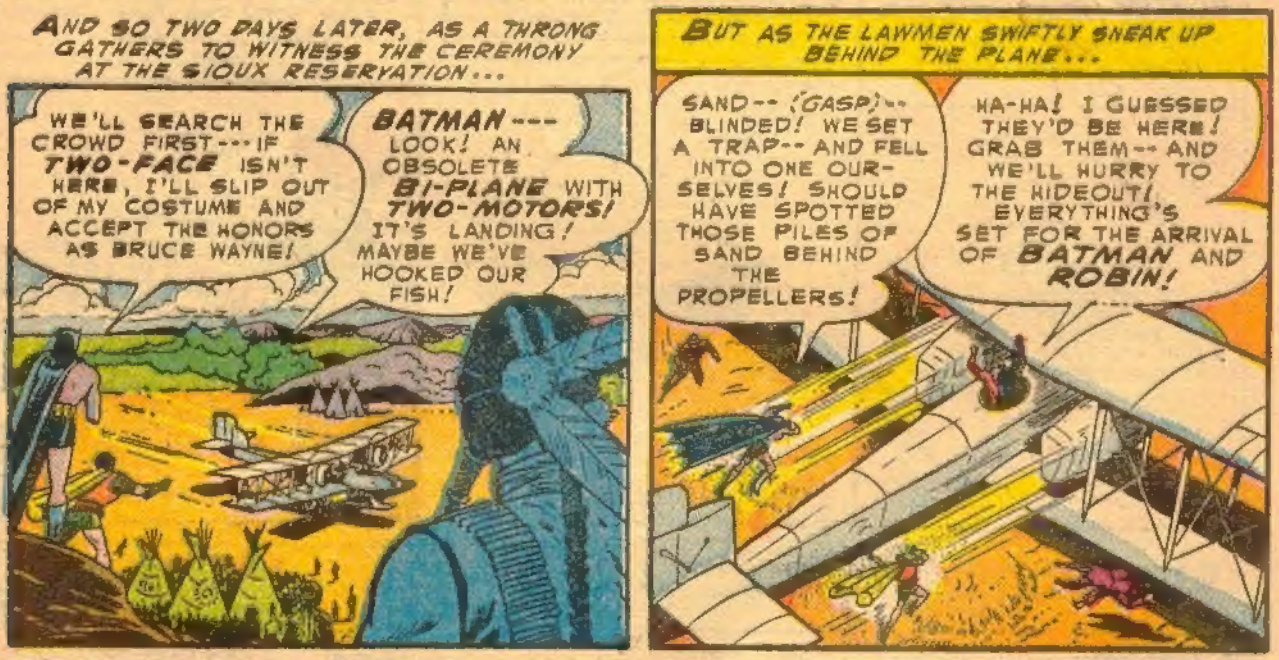
SOON AFTER...
HE SLIPPED OUT OF OUR GRASP AGAIN! WHO KNOWS WHEN WE'LL GET ANOTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITY?
THAT'S JUST IT! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE OUR OPPORTUNITIES! IF THERE'S ONLY SOME WAY WE COULD DRAW HIM OUT OF HIDING...
THEN, LATE THAT EVENING...
SAY--- I JUST REMEMBERED! THE LOCAL SIOUX RESERVATION WANTS TO HONOR BRUCE WAYNE FOR HIS CHARITY WORK BY MAKING HIM AN HONORARY CHIEF! I'VE PUT IT OFF-- BEEN TOO BUSY! BUT MAYBE THIS IS A WAY TO LURE TWO-FACE!
BUT--- I DON'T UNDER-STAND...
WHEN BRUCE WAYNE IS CROWNED AS CHIEF, THAT OFFICIALLY MAKES HIM A PALEFACE "INDIAN"! THE PAPERS ARE SURE TO PLAY THAT ANGLE UP--- AND THAT GIVES BRUCE WAYNE TWO-FACES! IT'S A LONG SHOT— BUT CERTAINLY WORTH TRYING!


AND SO TWO DAYS LATER, AS A THRONG GATHERS TO WITNESS THE CEREMONY AT THE SIOUX RESERVATION...
WE'LL SEARCH THE CROWD FIRST--- IF TWO-FACE ISN'T HERE, I'LL SLIP OUT OF MY COSTUME AND ACCEPT THE HONORS AS BRUCE WAYNE!
BATMAN--- LOOK! AN OBSOLETE BI-PLANE WITH TWO-MOTORS! IT'S LANDING! MAYBE WE'VE HOOKED OUR FISH!
BUT AS THE LAWMEN SWIFTLY SNEAK UP BEHIND THE PLANE...
SAND-- (GASP)-- BLINDED! WE SET A TRAP-- AND FELL INTO ONE OUR-SELVES! SHOULD HAVE SPOTTED THOSE PILES OF SAND BEHIND THE PROPELLERS!
HA-HA! I GUESSED THEY'D BE HERE! GRAB THEM-- AND WE'LL HURRY TO THE HIDEOUT! EVERYTHING'S SET FOR THE ARRIVAL OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

AND SOON AFTER, AT TWO-FACE'S HIDEOUT, A GRIM SIGHT GREETS THE CAPTURED CRIMEFIGHTERS...
ONCE AGAIN MY LUCKY COIN WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE, BATMAN! ONLY THIS TIME, IT WILL BE A GIANT COIN! YOU'LL BE STRAPPED TO THE COIN AND FLIPPED BY THAT DEVICE INTO THE AIR OVER THE SPIKES! IF YOU COME DOWN WRONG-SIDE-UP --- WELL, NEED I SAY MORE?

SOON AFTER, AS THE HAPLESS BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE STRAPPED WITH WIRE ACROSS THE "GOOD FACE" OF THE HUGE COIN...

THIS LOOKS LIKE A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE, ROBIN-- BUT IT ISN'T! OUR WEIGHT WILL SURELY TIP THE COIN SO THAT WE COME DOWN ON THE SPIKES-- AND TWO-FACE KNOWS IT!

HURRY AND FIX THAT MECHANISM! I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE TOSS OF THIS COIN!

MINUTES PASS, SLOWLY, AGONIZINGLY! AND THEN THE CATAPULT MECHANISM IS READY! AT A SIGNAL FROM TWO-FACE, THE COIN IS LAUNCHED INTO THE AIR!

HA-HA! WHAT AN IDEA THIS WAS! THE GREATEST OF MY CAREER!

UP SPINS THE COIN, TO THE TOP OF ITS ARC-- AND THEN DOWN IT STARTS, TURNING OVER AND OVER...

DOWN... DOWN... EVER SPINNING... GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER!

AND THEN A SUDDEN CRAZY FLIP AND THE COIN LANDS GOOD SIDE UP!

THEY LANDED SAFELY—AND THEY'VE SNAPPED THEIR BONDS! EVERYTHING'S GONE WRONG! EVERYTHING! I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

HITTING LIKE TWIN BLASTS OF DYNAMITE, THE LAWMEN SAIL INTO THE DEMORALIZED CROOKS...

YOUR MEN BOUND US TOO TIGHTLY WITH THAT WIRE! BY STRAINING AGAINST IT JUST BEFORE WE LANDED, ROBIN AND I DREW IT TRIGGER-TAUT! THE SOLID, SHARP LANDING IMPACT SNAPPED IT!

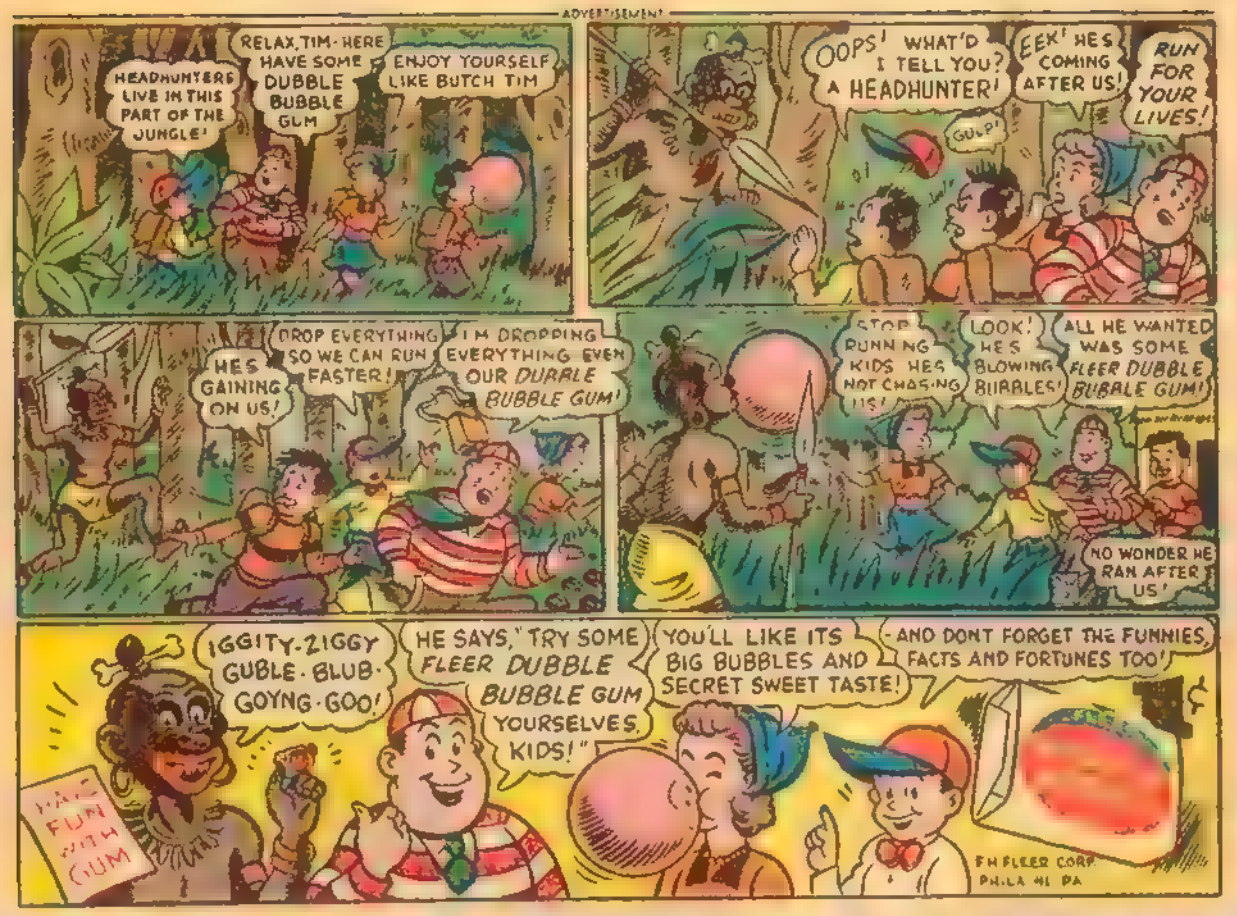
BUT HOW DID YOU LAND GOOD SIDE UP? IT WAS PRACTICALLY AN IMPOSSIBILITY!

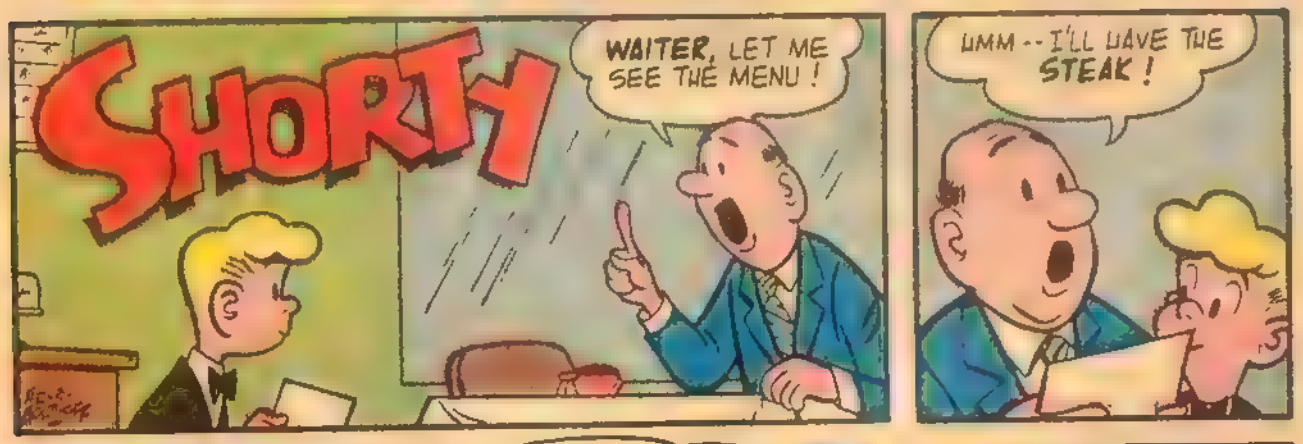
YOU SLIPPED UP! YOU STRAPPED US TO THAT COIN IN SUCH A WAY THAT OUR HANDS COULD REACH OUR BELT RADIOS! YOU NEVER NOTICED US FIDDLING WITH OUR RADIOS, CHANGING CONNECTIONS, TURNING THE RADIOS INTO ELECTRO-MAGNETS!

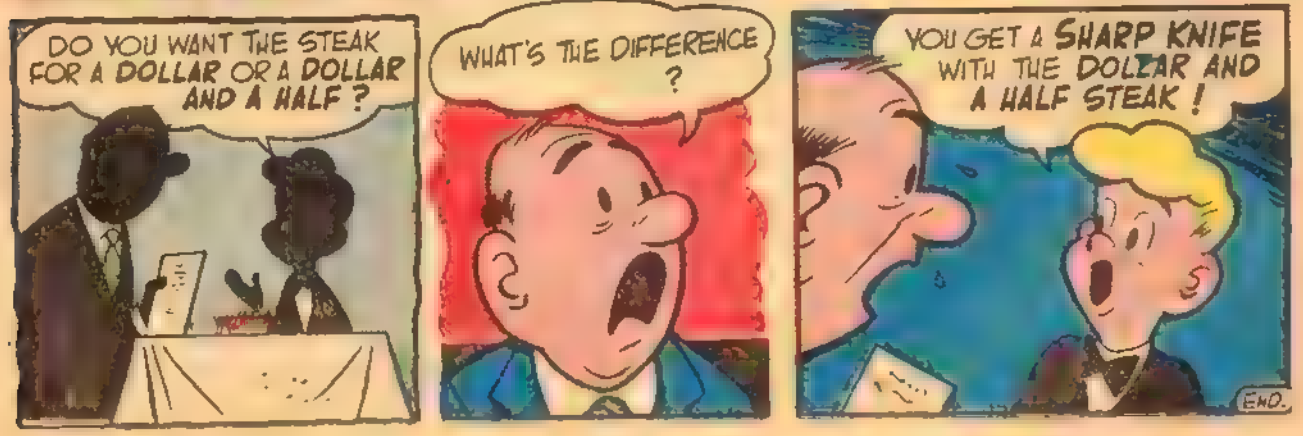
BY CONNECTING THESE MAGNETS WITH YOUR WIRE BINDINGS, WE SET UP A POWERFUL NEGATIVE MAGNETIC FIELD! IT REPELLED THOSE SPIKES— MAKING THE COIN LAND THE WAY IT DID!

THE END

ADVERTISEMENT


HEADHUNTERS LIVE IN THIS PART OF THE JUNGLE!
RELAX, TIM - HERE HAVE SOME DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM
ENJOY YOURSELF LIKE BUTCH TIM
OOPS! WHAT'D I TELL YOU? A HEADHUNTER!
GULP!
EEK! HE'S COMING AFTER US!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
HE'S GAINING ON US!
DROP EVERYTHING SO WE CAN RUN FASTER!
I'M DROPPING EVERYTHING EVEN OUR DURBLE BUBBLE GUM!
STOP RUNNING KIDS HE'S NOT CHASING US!
LOOK! HE'S BLOWING BUBBLES!
ALL HE WANTED WAS SOME FLEER DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM!
NO WONDER HE RAN AFTER US!
IGGITY-ZIGGY GUBLE-BLUB-GOYNG-GOO!
HE SAYS, "TRY SOME FLEER DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM YOURSELVES, KIDS!"
YOU'LL LIKE ITS BIG BUBBLES AND SECRET SWEET TASTE!
- AND DON'T FORGET THE FUNNIES, FACTS AND FORTUNES TOO!
HAVE FUN WITH GUM
F-H FLEER CORP PHILA 41 PA




DO YOU WANT THE STEAK FOR A DOLLAR OR A DOLLAR AND A HALF?
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?
YOU GET A SHARP KNIFE WITH THE DOLLAR AND A HALF STEAK!
END.

Binky in "THE BEST PRESENT OF ALL!"
WHAT'S THE MATTER, ALLERGY? YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'VE LOST ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS CHEER.'
I HAVE.'
YOU ALL GAVE ME SUCH NICE PRESENTS FOR CHRISTMAS, AND I HAD HARDLY ANY MONEY TO GET REAL NICE THINGS FOR YOU. SO I GOTTA START MAKING MONEY FOR NEXT YEAR...
MAYBE YOU CAN... BUT DON'T THINK WE DIDN'T LIKE YOUR PRESENTS.
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU'RE OVERLOOKING, SON. DIDN'T YOU SEND SOME OF YOUR CHRISTMAS MONEY OVERSEAS FOR COLD AND HUNGRY BOYS AND GIRLS?
SURE, ALL THE GANG DID THAT, DAD.
"AND DIDN'T YOU SING CAROLS ON CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB?"
"AND DIDN'T YOU SPEND A LOT OF TIME AND PART OF YOUR CHRISTMAS MONEY FIXING UP TOYS FOR THE KIDS IN THE HOSPITAL?"
SO, YOU SEE, YOU GAVE THE BEST THINGS ANYONE CAN--REAL THOUGHT FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S HAPPINESS, AT CHRISTMAS, OR ANY OTHER TIME. THIS IS THE MOST WELCOME PRESENT YOU CAN GIVE--AND THE ONE THAT LASTS LONGEST.'
YOU SAID IT, DAD.'

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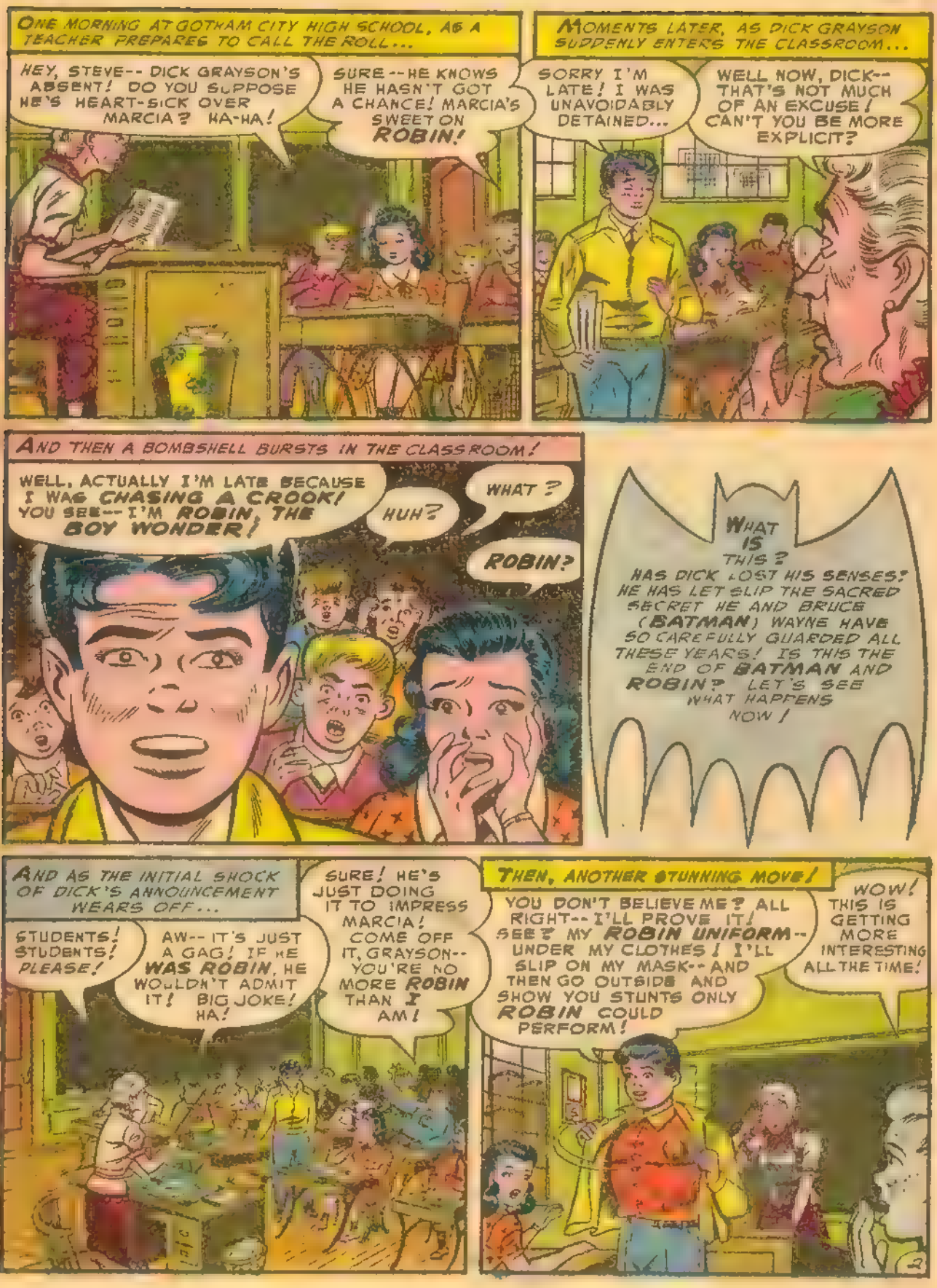
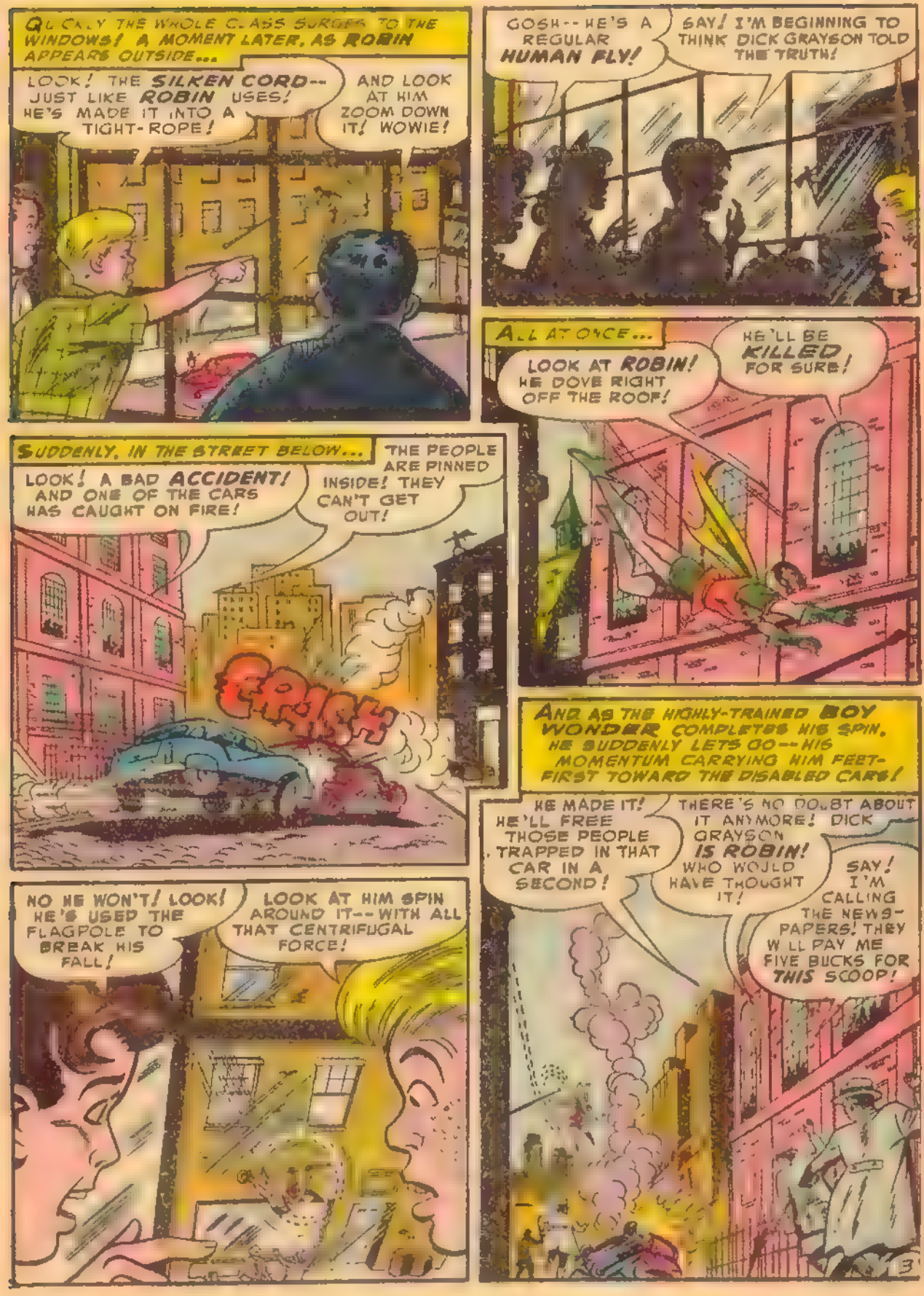
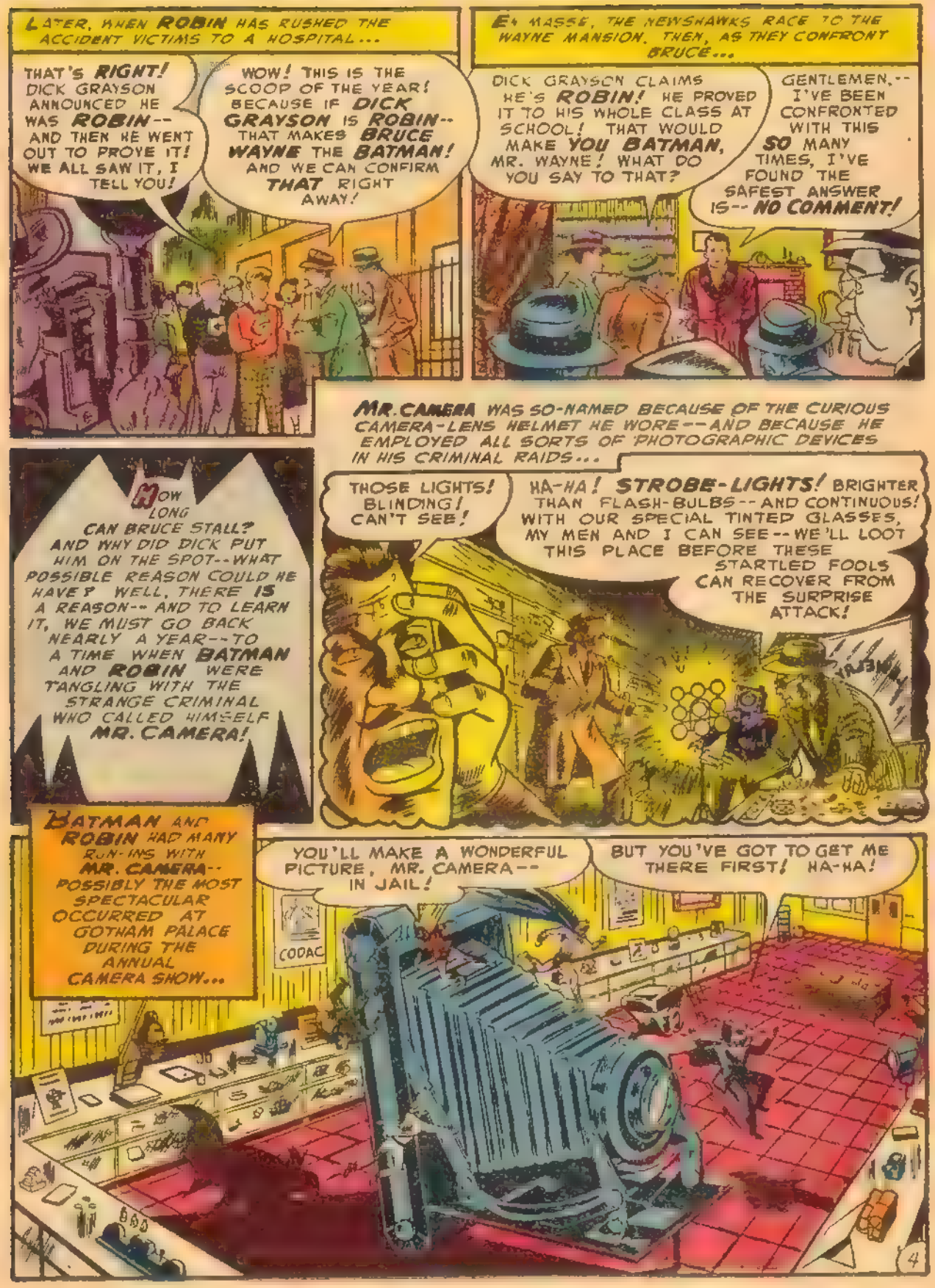
VARSITY VIC
VIC, THIS FELLOW BILL HAS SIGNS UP ALL OVER THE TOWN !
BILL BAKER for PRESIDENT
YOU'LL NEVER BEAT HIM IF YOU DON'T PUT ON A CAMPAIGN !
VOTE for BILL BAKER
AND LOOK !
VOTE FOR BILL BAKER
Sound TRUCK
I KNOW, HERBY, BUT ALL THAT COSTS MONEY. AND I JUST DON'T HAVE ANY !
WELL, THINK OF SOMETHING. SO LONG!
GLOOM

?
WHAT AN IDEA!
THERE! THAT SHOULD DO IT!
SCHOOL BULLETIN BOARD
MONSTER PARADE for our Candidate VARSITY VIC SATURDAY!
DID YOU SEE THAT SIGN ON THE BULLETIN BOARD?
A PARADE? THAT'LL COST A FORTUNE!
AND..
'RAY VIC!
VOTE for VIC
RINGLE BROS CIRCUS
RINGLE BROS. CIRCUS
END

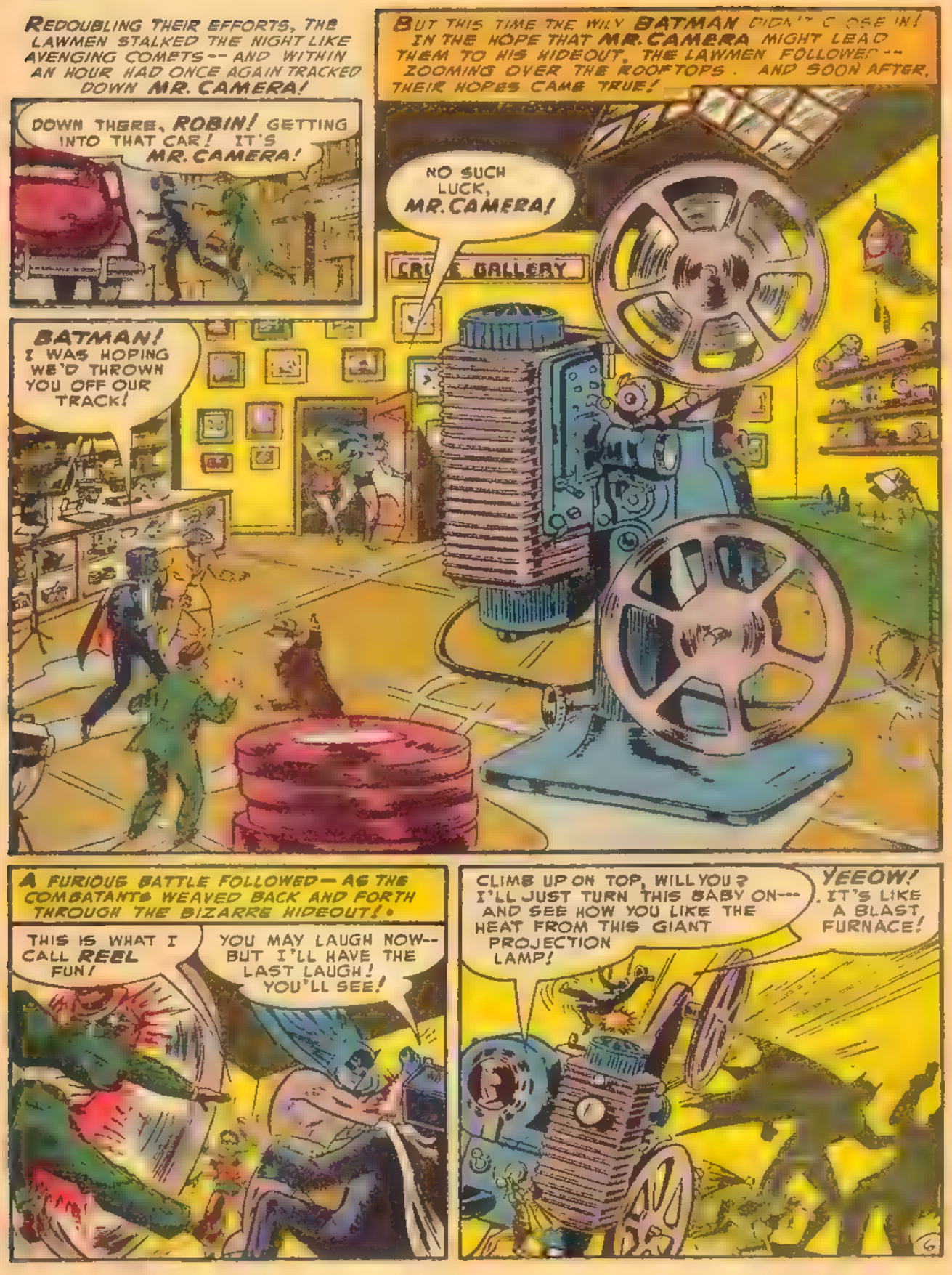
NOW COMES A TALE ALMOST TOO INCREDIBLE TO BELIEVE! A STORY THAT ROCKS THE GLORIOUS BATMAN AND ROBIN LEGEND TO ITS VERY FOUNDATION! A STORY THAT STARTS WHEN ROBIN BLANDLY GIVES AWAY HIS IDENTITY-- AND DOESN'T STOP UNTIL AN AMAZING CLIMAX HAS BEEN REACHED! FOR THRILL-AFTER-THRILL, SURPRISE-UPON-SURPRISE -- READ --
The BOY WONDER CONFESSES!
BATMAN
with ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, FROM COAST-TO-COAST! I CAN'T CONTAIN MY SECRET ANY LONGER! I--ROBIN--AM REALLY DICK GRAYSON! AND THAT MAKES BATMAN BRUCE WAYNE!
BY

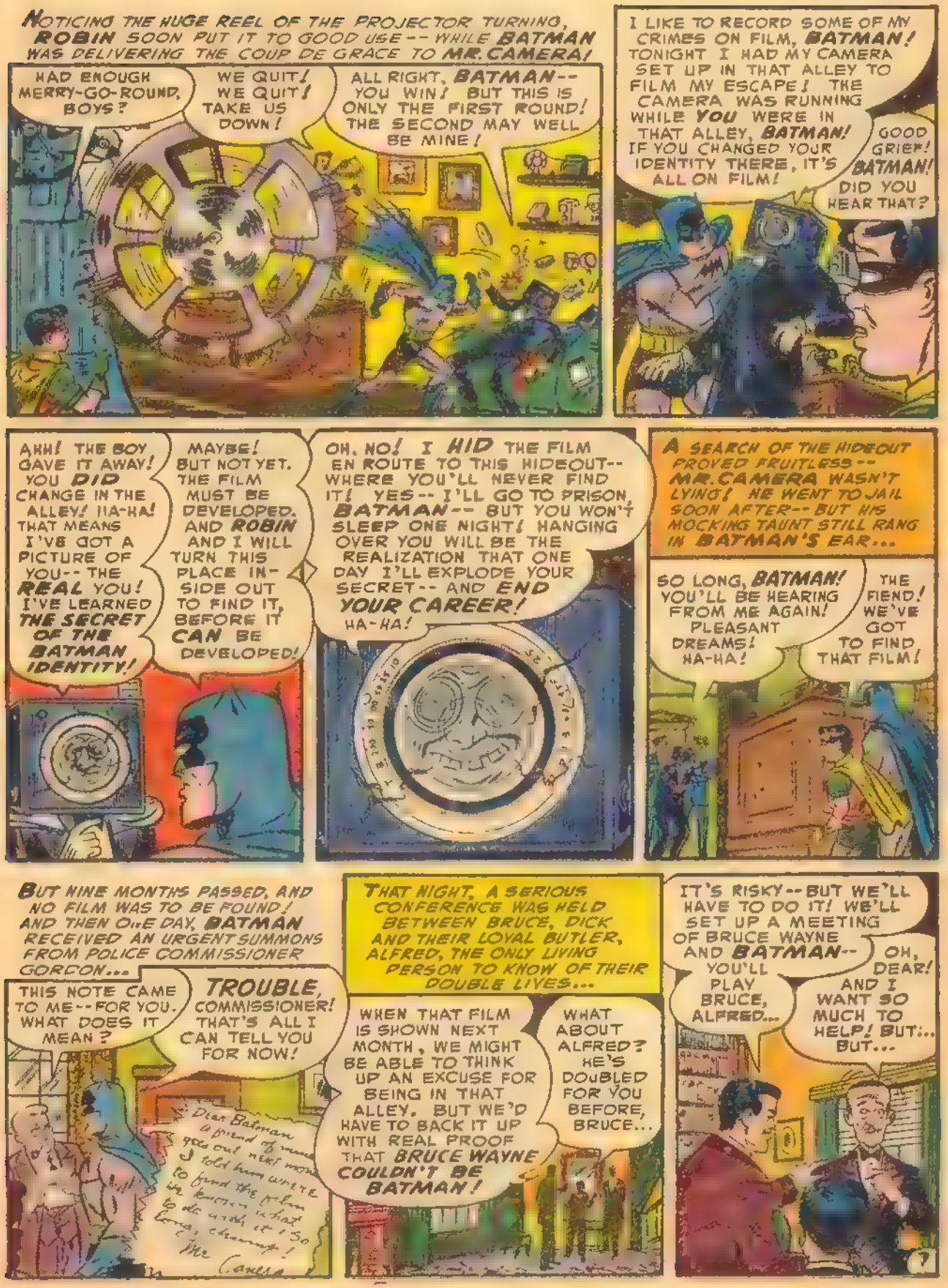

ONE MORNING AT GOTHAM CITY HIGH SCHOOL, AS A TEACHER PREPARES TO CALL THE ROLL...
HEY, STEVE-- DICK GRAYSON'S ABSENT! DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'S HEART-SICK OVER MARCIA? HA-HA!
SURE--HE KNOWS HE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE! MARCIA'S SWEET ON ROBIN!
MOMENTS LATER, AS DICK GRAYSON SUDDENLY ENTERS THE CLASSROOM...
SORRY I'M LATE! I WAS UNAVOIDABLY DETAINED...
WELL NOW, DICK-- THAT'S NOT MUCH OF AN EXCUSE! CAN'T YOU BE MORE EXPLICIT?
AND THEN A BOMBSHELL BURSTS IN THE CLASSROOM!
WELL, ACTUALLY I'M LATE BECAUSE I WAS CHASING A CROOK! YOU SEE--I'M ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!
HUH?
WHAT?
ROBIN?
WHAT IS THIS? HAS DICK LOST HIS SENSES? HE HAS LET SLIP THE SACRED SECRET HE AND BRUCE (BATMAN) WAYNE HAVE SO CAREFULLY GUARDED ALL THESE YEARS! IS THIS THE END OF BATMAN AND ROBIN? LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS NOW!
AND AS THE INITIAL SHOCK OF DICK'S ANNOUNCEMENT WEARS OFF...
STUDENTS! STUDENTS! PLEASE!
AW-- IT'S JUST A GAG! IF HE WAS ROBIN, HE WOULDN'T ADMIT IT! BIG JOKE! HA!
SURE! HE'S JUST DOING IT TO IMPRESS MARCIA! COME OFF IT, GRAYSON-- YOU'RE NO MORE ROBIN THAN I AM!
THEN, ANOTHER STUNNING MOVE!
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME? ALL RIGHT-- I'LL PROVE IT! SEE? MY ROBIN UNIFORM-- UNDER MY CLOTHES! I'LL SLIP ON MY MASK-- AND THEN GO OUTSIDE AND SHOW YOU STUNTS ONLY ROBIN COULD PERFORM!
WOW! THIS IS GETTING MORE INTERESTING ALL THE TIME!


QUICKLY THE WHOLE CLASS SURGES TO THE WINDOWS! A MOMENT LATER, AS ROBIN APPEARS OUTSIDE...
LOOK! THE SILKEN CORD-- JUST LIKE ROBIN USES! HE'S MADE IT INTO A TIGHT-ROPE!
AND LOOK AT HIM ZOOM DOWN IT! WOWIE!
GOSH-- HE'S A REGULAR HUMAN FLY!
SAY! I'M BEGINNING TO THINK DICK GRAYSON TOLD THE TRUTH!
ALL AT ONCE...
LOOK AT ROBIN! HE DOVE RIGHT OFF THE ROOF!
HE'LL BE KILLED FOR SURE!
SUDDENLY, IN THE STREET BELOW...
LOOK! A BAD ACCIDENT! AND ONE OF THE CARS HAS CAUGHT ON FIRE!
THE PEOPLE ARE PINNED INSIDE! THEY CAN'T GET OUT!
CRACK
AND AS THE HIGHLY-TRAINED BOY WONDER COMPLETES HIS SPIN, HE SUDDENLY LETS GO-- HIS MOMENTUM CARRYING HIM FEET-FIRST TOWARD THE DISABLED CARS!
NO HE WON'T! LOOK! HE'S USED THE FLAGPOLE TO BREAK HIS FALL!
LOOK AT HIM SPIN AROUND IT-- WITH ALL THAT CENTRIFUGAL FORCE!
HE MADE IT! HE'LL FREE THOSE PEOPLE TRAPPED IN THAT CAR IN A SECOND!
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT ANYMORE! DICK GRAYSON IS ROBIN! WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT IT!
SAY! I'M CALLING THE NEWSPAPERS! THEY WILL PAY ME FIVE BUCKS FOR THIS SCOOP!


LATER, WHEN ROBIN HAS RUSHED THE ACCIDENT VICTIMS TO A HOSPITAL...
THAT'S RIGHT! DICK GRAYSON ANNOUNCED HE WAS ROBIN-- AND THEN HE WENT OUT TO PROVE IT! WE ALL SAW IT, I TELL YOU!
WOW! THIS IS THE SCOOP OF THE YEAR! BECAUSE IF DICK GRAYSON IS ROBIN-- THAT MAKES BRUCE WAYNE THE BATMAN! AND WE CAN CONFIRM THAT RIGHT AWAY!
EN MASSE, THE NEWSHAWKS RACE TO THE WAYNE MANSION. THEN, AS THEY CONFRONT BRUCE...
DICK GRAYSON CLAIMS HE'S ROBIN! HE PROVED IT TO HIS WHOLE CLASS AT SCHOOL! THAT WOULD MAKE YOU BATMAN, MR. WAYNE! WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT?
GENTLEMEN,-- I'VE BEEN CONFRONTED WITH THIS SO MANY TIMES, I'VE FOUND THE SAFEST ANSWER IS-- NO COMMENT!
MR. CAMERA WAS SO-NAMED BECAUSE OF THE CURIOUS CAMERA-LENS HELMET HE WORE--AND BECAUSE HE EMPLOYED ALL SORTS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC DEVICES IN HIS CRIMINAL RAIDS...
THOSE LIGHTS! BLINDING! CAN'T SEE!
HA-HA! STROBE-LIGHTS! BRIGHTER THAN FLASH-BULBS--AND CONTINUOUS! WITH OUR SPECIAL TINTED GLASSES, MY MEN AND I CAN SEE--WE'LL LOOT THIS PLACE BEFORE THESE STARTLED FOOLS CAN RECOVER FROM THE SURPRISE ATTACK!
HOW LONG CAN BRUCE STALL? AND WHY DID DICK PUT HIM ON THE SPOT--WHAT POSSIBLE REASON COULD HE HAVE? WELL, THERE IS A REASON-- AND TO LEARN IT, WE MUST GO BACK NEARLY A YEAR--TO A TIME WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE TANGLING WITH THE STRANGE CRIMINAL WHO CALLED HIMSELF MR. CAMERA!
BATMAN AND ROBIN HAD MANY RUN-INS WITH MR. CAMERA-- POSSIBLY THE MOST SPECTACULAR OCCURRED AT GOTHAM PALACE DURING THE ANNUAL CAMERA SHOW...
YOU'LL MAKE A WONDERFUL PICTURE, MR. CAMERA-- IN JAIL!
BUT YOU'VE GOT TO GET ME THERE FIRST! HA-HA!
CODAC
4

BUT MR. CAMERA ESCAPED— AND CONTINUED TO ELUDE THE LAWMEN UNTIL AN EVENING A FEW WEEKS LATER...
SO YOU THINK THIS 3-D PICTURE MAY BRING MR. CAMERA OUT OF HIDING?
NOT THE PICTURE— BUT THE CAMERA! DURING INTER-MISSION, THE 3-D CAMERA USED TO FILM THIS PICTURE WILL BE DEMONSTRATED ON STAGE! I'M HOPING THIS WILL INTRIGUE MR. CAMERA!
AS THINGS TURNED OUT, BRUCE'S HUNCH PAID OFF! FOR, SHORTLY AFTER THE CAMERA DEMONSTRATION BEGAN, MR. CAMERA STRUCK!
YOU WERE RIGHT! THERE HE IS!
THERE'S AN ALLEY NEXT TO THIS THEATRE! WE'LL CHANGE INTO OUR UNIFORMS THERE, AND CLOSE IN ON MR. CAMERA!
SOON AFTER...
MR. CAMERA— LOOK OUT! BATMAN AND ROBIN! THEY CAME IN FROM THE ALLEY!
THE ALLEY?? HO-HO! THIS MAY BE MY LUCKY DAY!
A CRYPTIC REMARK— WHICH THE LAWMEN WERE NOT TO UNDERSTAND UNTIL LATER. MEANWHILE, THEY HAD PLENTY OF TROUBLE ON THEIR HANDS...
HE'S ABANDONED THE CAMERA— AND IS TRYING TO ESCAPE THROUGH THE ORCHESTRA!
COME ON— WE'VE GOT TO HEAD HIM OFF!
BUT THE PANICKY AUDIENCE OBSTRUCTED THE DUO LONG ENOUGH TO ALLOW MR. CAMERA TO REACH THE ADJOINING ALLEY. THEN...
LOOK! MR. CAMERA'S DOING SOMETHING TO THAT PILE OF RUBBLE!
MOMENTS LATER, THE VALIANT CRIME-FIGHTERS HAD REACHED THE PILE OF RUBBLE— AND MADE A STRANGE DISCOVERY!
A MOVIE CAMERA— AND INFRA-RED LIGHTS! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS, BATMAN?
IT'S A COMPLICATED RIG-UP. IT MUST HAVE BEEN SET UP EARLIER. BUT THE FILM IS MISSING, ROBIN! HE MUST HAVE JUST TAKEN IT! AND WE'D BETTER GET IT BACK AT ALL COSTS!


REDOUBLING THEIR EFFORTS, THE LAWMEN STALKED THE NIGHT LIKE AVENGING COMETS -- AND WITHIN AN HOUR HAD ONCE AGAIN TRACKED DOWN MR. CAMERA!
DOWN THERE, ROBIN! GETTING INTO THAT CAR! IT'S MR. CAMERA!
BUT THIS TIME THE WILY BATMAN DIDN'T CLOSE IN! IN THE HOPE THAT MR. CAMERA MIGHT LEAD THEM TO HIS HIDEOUT, THE LAWMEN FOLLOWED -- ZOOMING OVER THE ROOFTOPS. AND SOON AFTER, THEIR HOPES CAME TRUE!
NO SUCH LUCK, MR. CAMERA!
BATMAN! I WAS HOPING WE'D THROWN YOU OFF OUR TRACK!
A FURIOUS BATTLE FOLLOWED — AS THE COMBATANTS WEAVED BACK AND FORTH THROUGH THE BIZARRE HIDEOUT!
THIS IS WHAT I CALL REEL FUN!
YOU MAY LAUGH NOW-- BUT I'LL HAVE THE LAST LAUGH! YOU'LL SEE!
CLIMB UP ON TOP, WILL YOU? I'LL JUST TURN THIS BABY ON--- AND SEE HOW YOU LIKE THE HEAT FROM THIS GIANT PROJECTION LAMP!
YEEOW! IT'S LIKE A BLAST FURNACE!


NOTICING THE HUGE REEL OF THE PROJECTOR TURNING, ROBIN SOON PUT IT TO GOOD USE -- WHILE BATMAN WAS DELIVERING THE COUP DE GRACE TO MR. CAMERA!
HAD ENOUGH MERRY-GO-ROUND, BOYS?
WE QUIT! WE QUIT! TAKE US DOWN!
ALL RIGHT, BATMAN -- YOU WIN! BUT THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST ROUND! THE SECOND MAY WELL BE MINE!
I LIKE TO RECORD SOME OF MY CRIMES ON FILM, BATMAN! TONIGHT I HAD MY CAMERA SET UP IN THAT ALLEY TO FILM MY ESCAPE! THE CAMERA WAS RUNNING WHILE YOU WERE IN THAT ALLEY, BATMAN! IF YOU CHANGED YOUR IDENTITY THERE, IT'S ALL ON FILM!
GOOD GRIEF! BATMAN! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
AHH! THE BOY GAVE IT AWAY! YOU DID CHANGE IN THE ALLEY! HA-HA! THAT MEANS I'VE GOT A PICTURE OF YOU -- THE REAL YOU! I'VE LEARNED THE SECRET OF THE BATMAN IDENTITY!
MAYBE! BUT NOT YET. THE FILM MUST BE DEVELOPED. AND ROBIN AND I WILL TURN THIS PLACE INSIDE OUT TO FIND IT, BEFORE IT CAN BE DEVELOPED!
OH, NO! I HID THE FILM EN ROUTE TO THIS HIDEOUT -- WHERE YOU'LL NEVER FIND IT! YES -- I'LL GO TO PRISON, BATMAN -- BUT YOU WON'T SLEEP ONE NIGHT! HANGING OVER YOU WILL BE THE REALIZATION THAT ONE DAY I'LL EXPLODE YOUR SECRET -- AND END YOUR CAREER! HA-HA!
A SEARCH OF THE HIDEOUT PROVED FRUITLESS -- MR. CAMERA WASN'T LYING! HE WENT TO JAIL SOON AFTER -- BUT HIS MOCKING TAUNT STILL RANG IN BATMAN'S EAR...
SO LONG, BATMAN! YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM ME AGAIN! PLEASANT DREAMS! HA-HA!
THE FIEND! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT FILM!
BUT NINE MONTHS PASSED, AND NO FILM WAS TO BE FOUND! AND THEN ONE DAY, BATMAN RECEIVED AN URGENT SUMMONS FROM POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...
THIS NOTE CAME TO ME -- FOR YOU. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
TROUBLE, COMMISSIONER! THAT'S ALL I CAN TELL YOU FOR NOW!
Dear Batman
A friend of mine got out next month & told him where to find the film & he knows what to do with it. So long, champ!
Mr. Camera
THAT NIGHT, A SERIOUS CONFERENCE WAS HELD BETWEEN BRUCE, DICK AND THEIR LOYAL BUTLER, ALFRED, THE ONLY LIVING PERSON TO KNOW OF THEIR DOUBLE LIVES...
WHEN THAT FILM IS SHOWN NEXT MONTH, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO THINK UP AN EXCUSE FOR BEING IN THAT ALLEY. BUT WE'D HAVE TO BACK IT UP WITH REAL PROOF THAT BRUCE WAYNE COULDN'T BE BATMAN!
WHAT ABOUT ALFRED? HE'S DOUBLED FOR YOU BEFORE, BRUCE...
IT'S RISKY -- BUT WE'LL HAVE TO DO IT! WE'LL SET UP A MEETING OF BRUCE WAYNE AND BATMAN -- YOU'LL PLAY BRUCE, ALFRED...
OH, DEAR! AND I WANT SO MUCH TO HELP! BUT... BUT...
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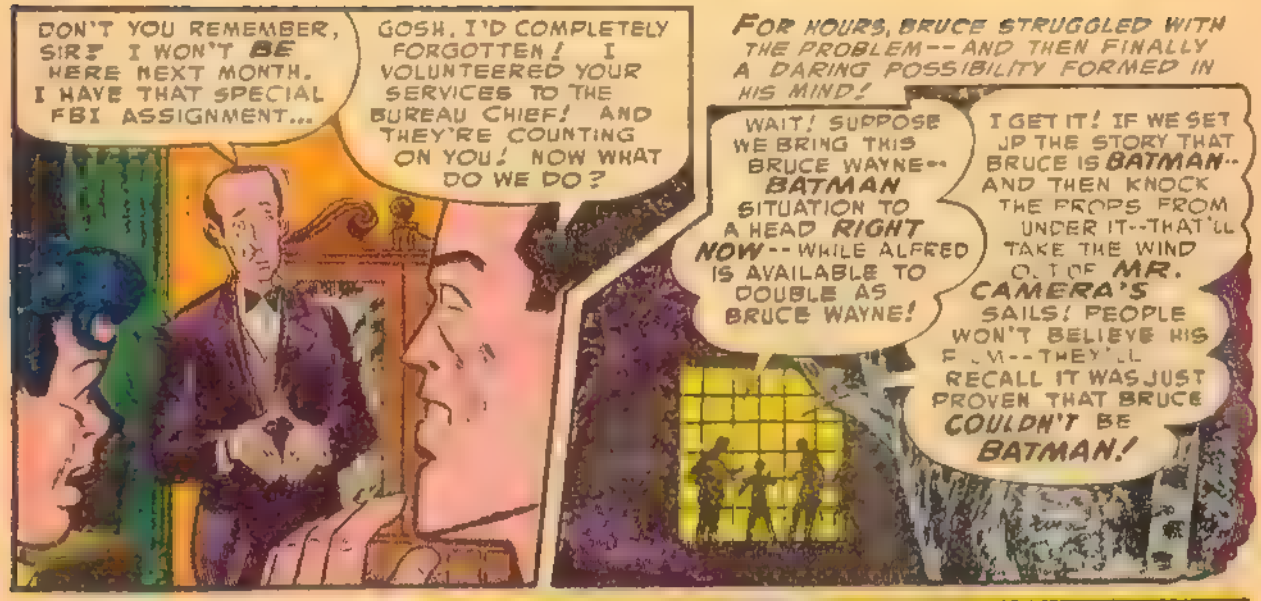
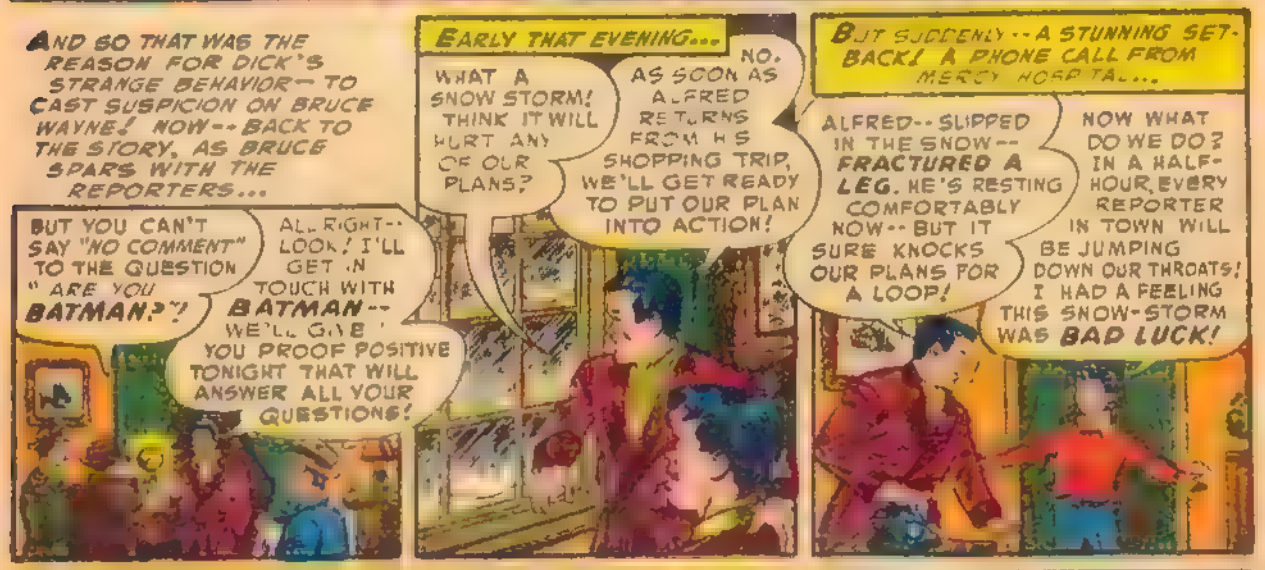
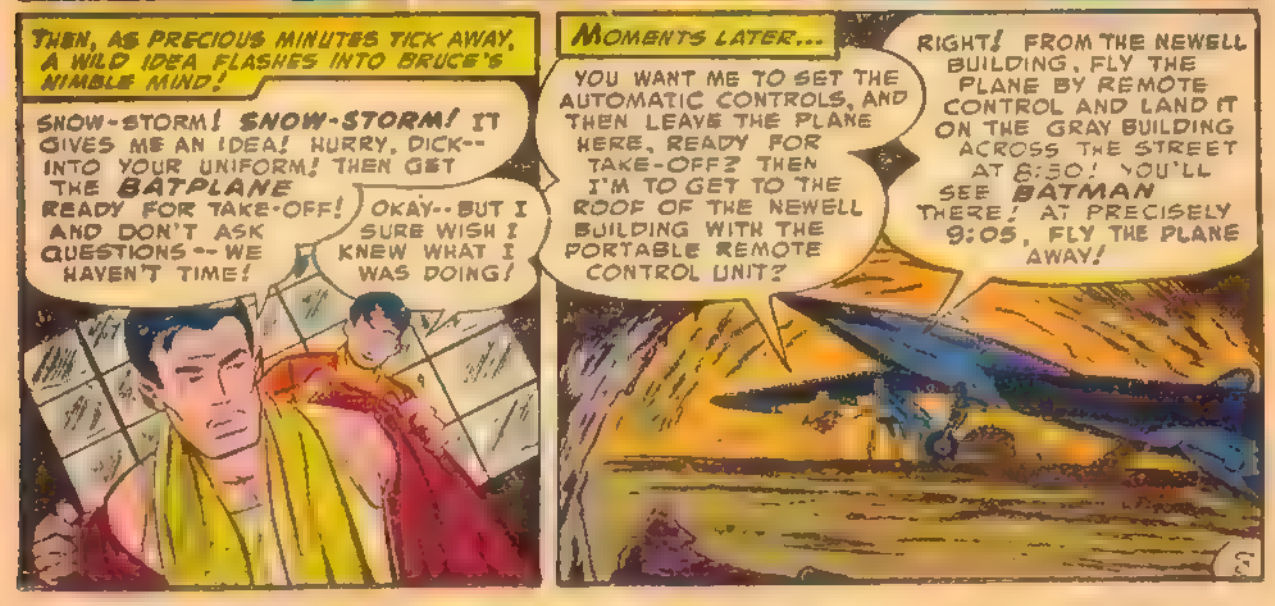
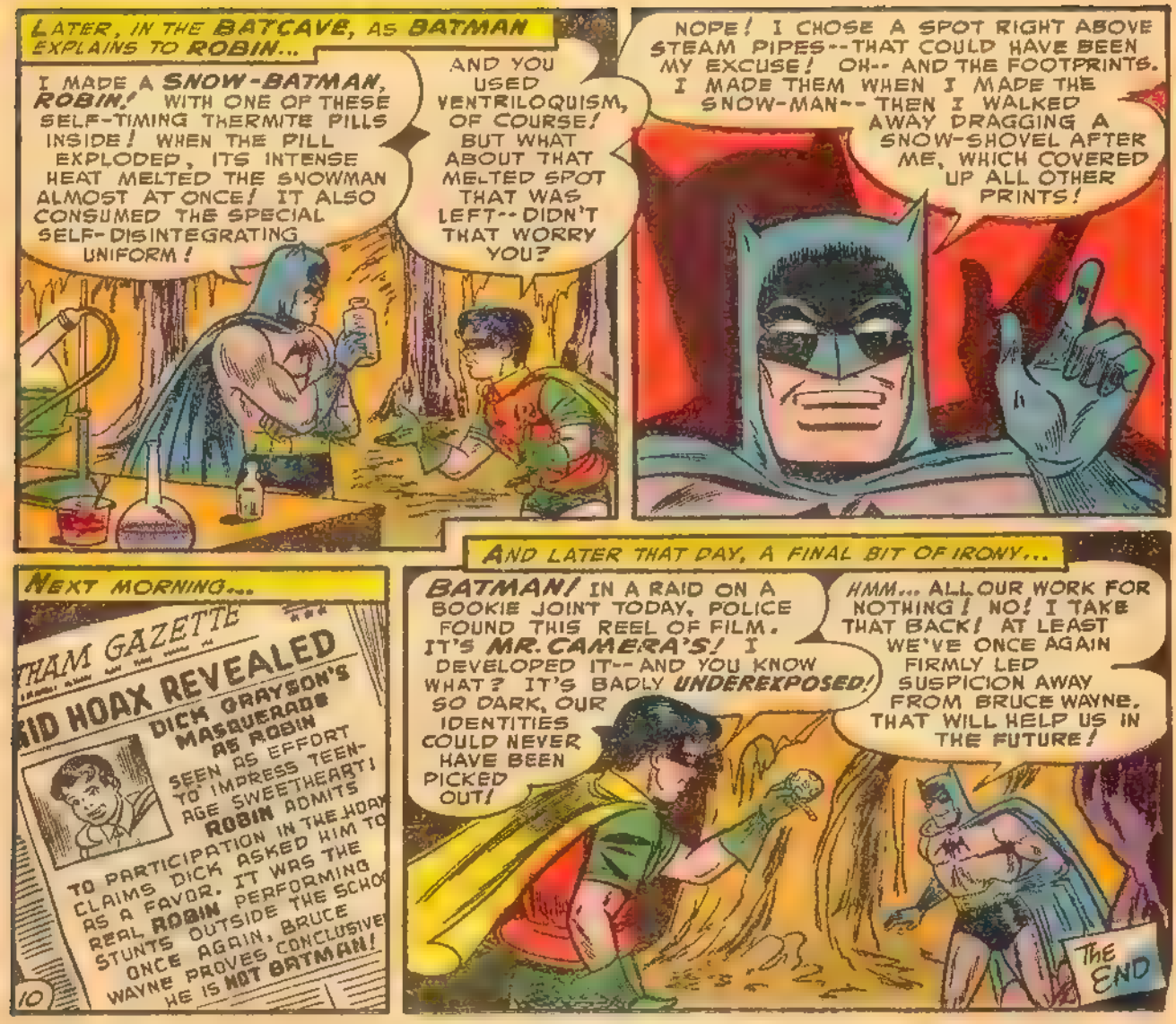

DON'T YOU REMEMBER, SIR? I WON'T BE HERE NEXT MONTH. I HAVE THAT SPECIAL FBI ASSIGNMENT...
GOSH, I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN! I VOLUNTEERED YOUR SERVICES TO THE BUREAU CHIEF! AND THEY'RE COUNTING ON YOU! NOW WHAT DO WE DO?
FOR HOURS, BRUCE STRUGGLED WITH THE PROBLEM--AND THEN FINALLY A DARING POSSIBILITY FORMED IN HIS MIND!
WAIT! SUPPOSE WE BRING THIS BRUCE WAYNE--BATMAN SITUATION TO A HEAD RIGHT NOW--WHILE ALFRED IS AVAILABLE TO DOUBLE AS BRUCE WAYNE!
I GET IT! IF WE SET UP THE STORY THAT BRUCE IS BATMAN--AND THEN KNOCK THE PROPS FROM UNDER IT--THAT'LL TAKE THE WIND OUT OF MR. CAMERA'S SAILS! PEOPLE WON'T BELIEVE HIS FILM--THEY'LL RECALL IT WAS JUST PROVEN THAT BRUCE COULDN'T BE BATMAN!


AND SO THAT WAS THE REASON FOR DICK'S STRANGE BEHAVIOR—TO CAST SUSPICION ON BRUCE WAYNE! NOW--BACK TO THE STORY, AS BRUCE SPARS WITH THE REPORTERS...
BUT YOU CAN'T SAY "NO COMMENT" TO THE QUESTION "ARE YOU BATMAN?"!
ALL RIGHT--LOOK! I'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH BATMAN--WE'LL GIVE YOU PROOF POSITIVE TONIGHT THAT WILL ANSWER ALL YOUR QUESTIONS!
EARLY THAT EVENING...
WHAT A SNOW STORM! THINK IT WILL HURT ANY OF OUR PLANS?
NO. AS SOON AS ALFRED RETURNS FROM HIS SHOPPING TRIP, WE'LL GET READY TO PUT OUR PLAN INTO ACTION!
BUT SUDDENLY--A STUNNING SET-BACK! A PHONE CALL FROM MERCY HOSPITAL...
ALFRED--SLIPPED IN THE SNOW--FRACTURED A LEG. HE'S RESTING COMFORTABLY NOW--BUT IT SURE KNOCKS OUR PLANS FOR A LOOP!
NOW WHAT DO WE DO? IN A HALF-HOUR, EVERY REPORTER IN TOWN WILL BE JUMPING DOWN OUR THROATS! I HAD A FEELING THIS SNOW-STORM WAS BAD LUCK!


THEN, AS PRECIOUS MINUTES TICK AWAY, A WILD IDEA FLASHES INTO BRUCE'S NIMBLE MIND!
SNOW-STORM! SNOW-STORM! IT GIVES ME AN IDEA! HURRY, DICK--INTO YOUR UNIFORM! THEN GET THE BATPLANE READY FOR TAKE-OFF! AND DON'T ASK QUESTIONS--WE HAVEN'T TIME!
OKAY--BUT I SURE WISH I KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING!
MOMENTS LATER...
YOU WANT ME TO SET THE AUTOMATIC CONTROLS, AND THEN LEAVE THE PLANE HERE, READY FOR TAKE-OFF? THEN I'M TO GET TO THE ROOF OF THE NEWELL BUILDING WITH THE PORTABLE REMOTE CONTROL UNIT?
RIGHT! FROM THE NEWELL BUILDING, FLY THE PLANE BY REMOTE CONTROL AND LAND IT ON THE GRAY BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET AT 8:50! YOU'LL SEE BATMAN THERE! AT PRECISELY 9:05, FLY THE PLANE AWAY!

THAT EVENING, AT 8:30 P.M. ...
THERE'S BATMAN--AND I'VE LANDED THE PLANE THE WAY HE WANTED. NOW I'M TO STAY HERE AND EXPOSE MYSELF!
SOON AFTER ..
HI, BRUCE! HAVING TROUBLE WITH THOSE REPORTERS?
THERE'S BRUCE--- AND THERE'S BATMAN! HOW IN THE WORLD DID HE DO IT?
YEAH--SAME AS EVER! THEY THINK I'M YOU!
WON'T THEY EVER LEARN? WELL, I CAN'T STAY AROUND FOR SUCH FOOLISHNESS! I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
A MOMENT LATER, AT 9:05 P.M..
BATMAN'S DISAPPEARED--AND THERE GOES THE BATPLANE! ROBIN COULDN'T HAVE FLOWN IT — HE'S ACROSS THE STREET! SEEMS LEGIT, ALL RIGHT--BUT LET'S JUST CHECK THAT ROOF!
SOON AFTER...
HERE'S WHERE HE STOOD--AND HIS FOOTPRINTS LEAD TO AND FROM THAT MESSED-UP SPOT WHERE THE BATPLANE STOOD. IT MAKES SENSE...
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A DUMMY WITH A PHONOGRAPH INSIDE--BECAUSE HOW COULD A DUMMY DISAPPEAR? NO---I'LL BUY IT!
AND IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ALFRED--HE'S IN THE HOSPITAL! AND NO ACTOR COULD BE HIRED--BECAUSE HE WOULD THEN KNOW THE SECRET! BUT WHY DID DICK GRAYSON START ALL THIS FUSS, ANYWAY?
I THINK ROBIN AND I CAN SUPPLY THOSE ANSWERS, BOYS!
AND I'LL WANT SOME ANSWERS FROM YOU MR. WAYNE, AS SOON AS WE'RE ALONE!


LATER, IN THE BATCAVE, AS BATMAN EXPLAINS TO ROBIN...
I MADE A SNOW-BATMAN, ROBIN! WITH ONE OF THESE SELF-TIMING THERMITE PILLS INSIDE! WHEN THE PILL EXPLODED, ITS INTENSE HEAT MELTED THE SNOWMAN ALMOST AT ONCE! IT ALSO CONSUMED THE SPECIAL SELF-DISINTEGRATING UNIFORM!
AND YOU USED VENTRILOQUISM, OF COURSE! BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT MELTED SPOT THAT WAS LEFT-- DIDN'T THAT WORRY YOU?
NOPE! I CHOSE A SPOT RIGHT ABOVE STEAM PIPES--THAT COULD HAVE BEEN MY EXCUSE! OH-- AND THE FOOTPRINTS. I MADE THEM WHEN I MADE THE SNOW-MAN-- THEN I WALKED AWAY DRAGGING A SNOW-SHOVEL AFTER ME, WHICH COVERED UP ALL OTHER PRINTS!
NEXT MORNING...
THAM GAZETTE
ID HOAX REVEALED
DICK GRAYSON'S MASQUERADE AS ROBIN
SEEN AS EFFORT TO IMPRESS TEEN-AGE SWEETHEART! ROBIN ADMITS TO PARTICIPATION IN THE HOAX
CLAIMS DICK ASKED HIM TO AS A FAVOR. IT WAS THE REAL ROBIN PERFORMING STUNTS OUTSIDE THE SCHO
ONCE AGAIN, BRUCE WAYNE PROVES CONCLUSIVE HE IS NOT BATMAN!
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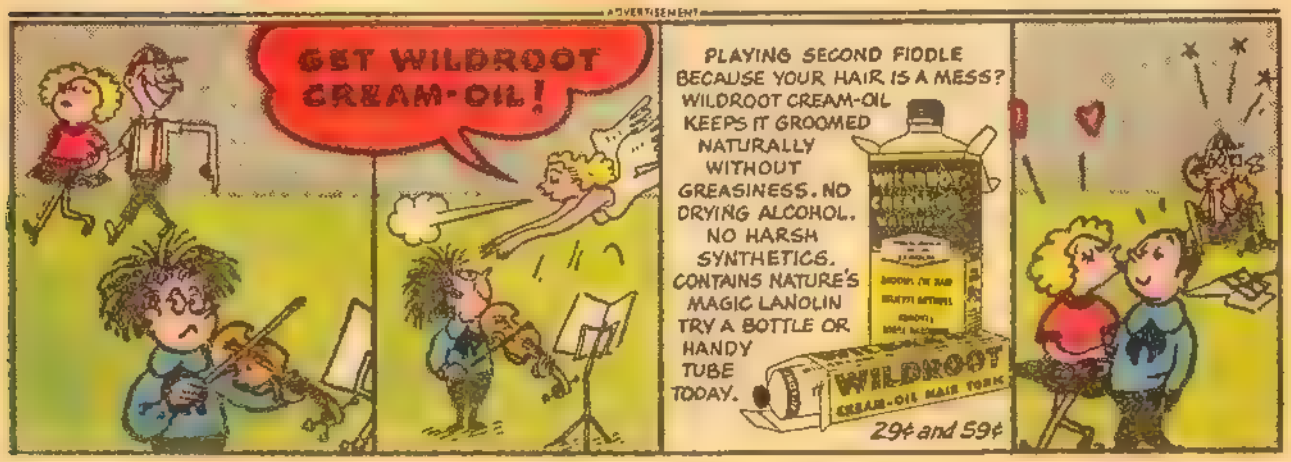
AND LATER THAT DAY, A FINAL BIT OF IRONY...
BATMAN! IN A RAID ON A BOOKIE JOINT TODAY, POLICE FOUND THIS REEL OF FILM. IT'S MR. CAMERA'S! I DEVELOPED IT-- AND YOU KNOW WHAT? IT'S BADLY UNDEREXPOSED! SO DARK, OUR IDENTITIES COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN PICKED OUT!
HMM... ALL OUR WORK FOR NOTHING! NO! I TAKE THAT BACK! AT LEAST WE'VE ONCE AGAIN FIRMLY LED SUSPICION AWAY FROM BRUCE WAYNE. THAT WILL HELP US IN THE FUTURE!
THE END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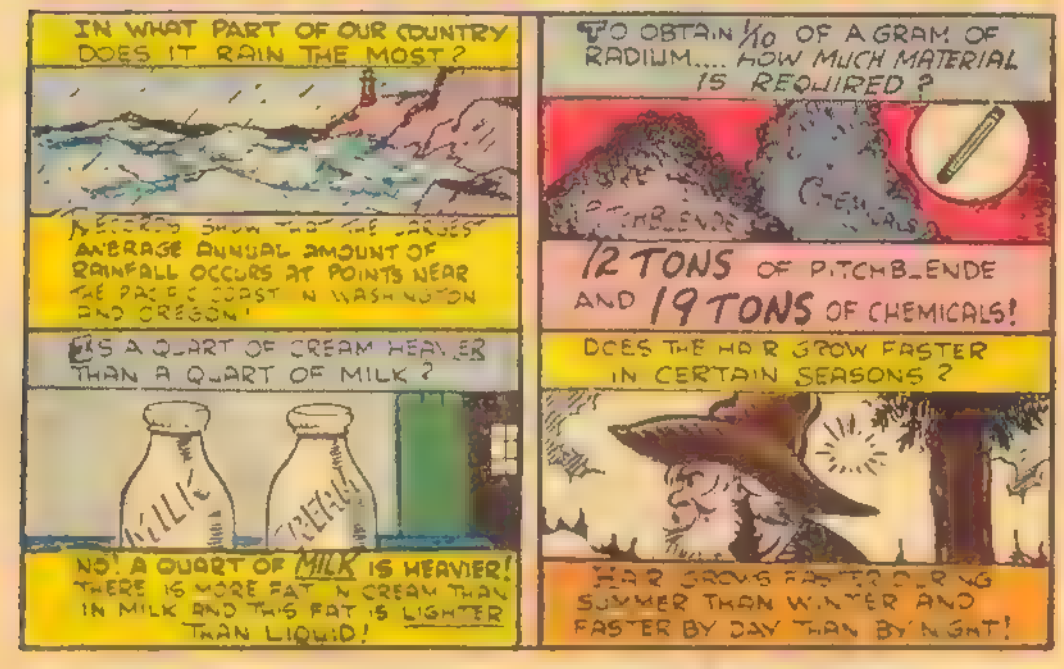
IN WHAT PART OF OUR COUNTRY DOES IT RAIN THE MOST?
RECORDS SHOW THAT THE LARGEST AVERAGE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF RAINFALL OCCURS AT POINTS NEAR THE PACIFIC COAST IN WASHINGTON AND OREGON!
IS A QUART OF CREAM HEAVIER THAN A QUART OF MILK?
MILK
CREAM
NO! A QUART OF MILK IS HEAVIER! THERE IS MORE FAT IN CREAM THAN IN MILK AND THIS FAT IS LIGHTER THAN LIQUID!
TO OBTAIN 1/10 OF A GRAM OF RADIUM.... HOW MUCH MATERIAL IS REQUIRED?
PITCHBLENDE
CHEMICALS
12 TONS OF PITCHBLENDE AND 19 TONS OF CHEMICALS!
DOES THE HAIR GROW FASTER IN CERTAIN SEASONS?
HAIR GROWS FASTER DURING SUMMER THAN WINTER AND FASTER BY DAY THAN BY NIGHT!

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The Cruelest Racket in the World

The FBI and Police Bunko Squads Declare Open War On Heartless Hoodlums Who Prey On Grief

THE widow of the wealthy auto dealer, George T. Ford, still showed visible signs of weeping when she opened her front door. George had died almost two weeks before, but it would be a long, long time before she would be able to think of him without a stab of pain, for he had been a loving and devoted husband.

Standing on her threshold now was a rather tall man, with deep set eyes, and a pleasant, friendly smile. His hair was wavy and full. The instant impression one got of him was that he was an artist. Under his arm, he carried a very large parcel wrapped in brown paper.

His voice was cheery as he said:

"Good morning! Is Mr. Ford in?"

Mrs. Ford gulped. Obviously, he didn't know.

"Mr. Ford died, about two weeks ago," she managed to say. "May *I* help you?"

The stranger seemed staggered, and groped uncomfortably for words. Mrs. Ford repeated her question: "May I help you?"

At length, the stranger found his voice. "I—I don't know. May I come in?"

Henrietta Ford stepped aside, and the stranger walked into the house. The widow led him into the large sitting room. Silently, he unwrapped the parcel, revealing a large oil painting.

Mrs. Ford felt a catch in her throat when she looked at it. It was a portrait of her husband. Her eyes finally lifted from the painting to the worried face of the artist. His words came tumbling out in answer to her questioning gaze.

"I'm so sorry, Mrs. Ford, I didn't know. You see, I'm an artist. Harvey Jackson's my name. Mr. Ford commissioned me to paint his portrait."

Henrietta Ford stared. "I—I didn't know!" she gasped.

"Of course not. He wanted it to be a surprise for you. No one knew!"

Mrs. Ford's eyes went back to the painting. She knew nothing at all about art. The picture could be a very good one or it could be quite bad. But that didn't matter. No, what mattered was that George had planned for her to have this portrait of himself, but had died before he could present it to her.

She did her best to hold back the tears when she finally replied:

"Of course, I'll pay you for the painting, and I'll be glad to have it."

Henrietta Ford paid the artist $2,500, and Harvey Jackson, or whatever his real name

was, chalked up another victim in a racket that was grossing him over $50,000 a year until he was caught by a suspicious widow.

Jackson's method of operating was simplicity itself. He spent most of his time making portraits of wealthy citizens, working from newspaper photos. Then, when one of his "subjects" would die, he would wait a week or so before presenting himself before the hapless widow, who, nine times out of ten, was too heartbroken to think clearly.

Preying on bereaved families takes many forms, and the FBI and local police bunko squads have declared open warfare on these heartless hoods.

A favorite trick is for a swindler, posing as a "government man" to call on the widow to find out if she has engaged a lawyer to liquidate certain "government securities" held by her husband.

The widow, of course, replies that she didn't even know her husband owned government securities, in which case she promises to engage a lawyer that same day, or the next. Upon which, the "government man" advises her to save her money, since the government provides this service free of charge.

The widow is delighted to learn of this bonanza, coming at a time when she can use every extra dollar. And she is full of praise for this free service.

"Yes, indeed," nods the swindler, in agreement, "all you have to pay is $150 to take care of the clerical costs, but since you will receive several thousands, I'm sure you won't mind the small service charge." Most widows are very happy to pay the small fee.

Veterans' families have been fleeced of hundreds of thousands of dollars in a wide variety of rackets directly aimed at them. One sorrowing father eagerly subscribed to a non-existent set of books entitled, "Our Bravest Fighting Men," because he had been assured by a fast-talking salesman that an entire chapter in the book was devoted to his son.

Another father sent a "pal" of his son who had been killed in action $100 to cover costs of mailing and shipping certain articles which the son had supposedly entrusted to this "pal."

"I'm a little broke right now," the "pal" had told the father over the phone, "or I'd never ask you to send me the $5 it costs to mail the stuff to you. Joey was a swell guy, and I was right at his side when he died. His last words were about you, his father!"

Can you blame the heart-sore father for immediately sending his son's "pal" the money to cover the shipping, plus $95 because his son's war-time buddy was broke? As you can see, these cold-blooded swindlers play every angle.

Police claim that some swindlers employ large staffs of girls who comb the nation's newspapers, jotting down the names of recently deceased men. Wasting no time, the swindlers then mail out a piece of merchandise, priced according to what the traffic can bear.

The bereaved family, upon receiving, C.O.D., a fountain pen, a watch, a bottle of perfume, all items being overpriced far beyond their actual value, haven't the heart to refuse something ordered by their dear, departed one!

A gang working this racket was recently broken up when the uncle of such an innocently-employed girl died, and her family began receiving cheap merchandise from her firm. Shocked to learn the nature of the company she worked for, the girl went at once to the local district attorney and blurted out her suspicions.

Police wish all people would act as swiftly when it comes to these hearse-chasers!

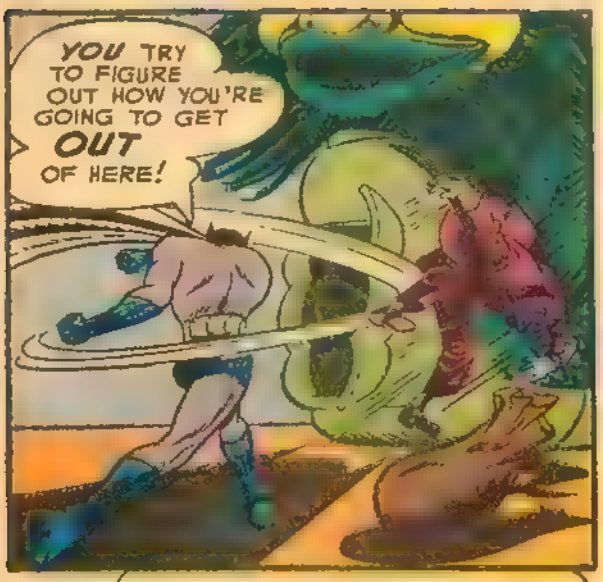
—J. E. Melrose

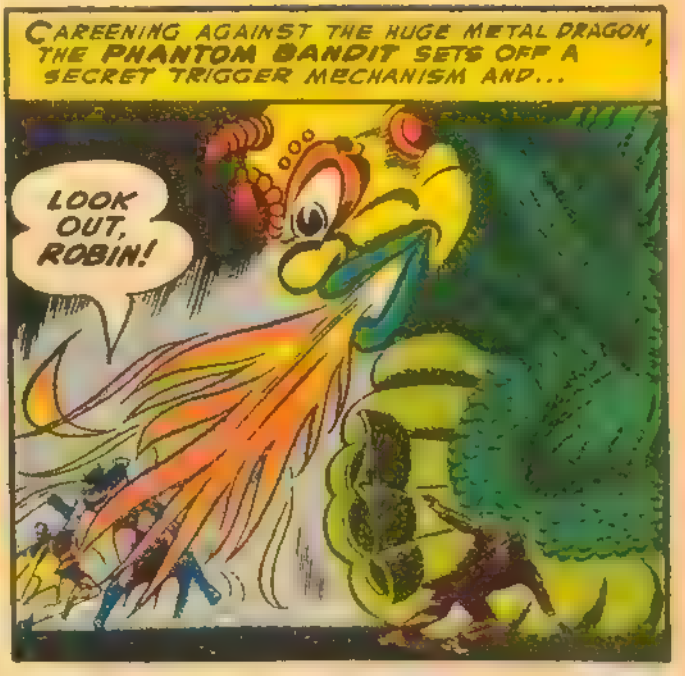
CASEY
THE COP
OFFICER!
COME QUICKLY! TWO MEN ARE FIGHTING DOWN THE STREET!
THEY'VE BEEN AT IT FOR HALF AN HOUR!
HALF AN HOUR? WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL ME BEFORE?
BECAUSE MY FRIEND WAS GETTING THE BEST OF IT UNTIL A MINUTE AGO!
THE END

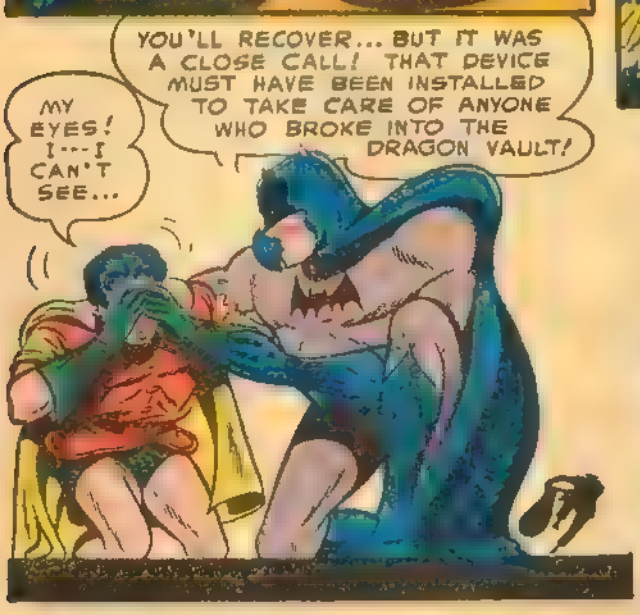
BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
THE PHANTOM BANDIT CRACKED THE VAULT OF THE GOTHAM CITY BANK!
HA, HA, HA-HA. HA, HA, HA-HA!
B-BUT IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE BURGLAR-PROOF!
A PHANTOM WHO SEEMS TO PASS THROUGH SOLID WALLS... SEEMS TO PASS THROUGH THE MOST INTRICATE LOCKS, THE STRONGEST BARRED WINDOWS, THE MOST IMPREGNABLE VAULTS! IS THERE NO DEFENSE AGAINST THIS MAD BANDIT? YOU ARE IN FOR THRILLS AND CHILLS APLENTY WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEK THE ANSWER TO THE BAFFLING MYSTERY BEHIND THE INCREDIBLE EXPLOITS OF...
"THE PHANTOM BANDIT of GOTHAM CITY!"

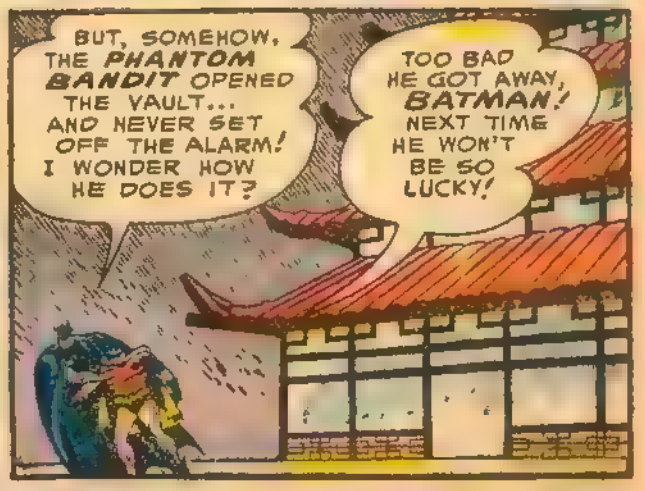
NIGHT, IN GOTHAM CITY, AND A LONE GUARD KEEPS WATCH NEAR A HUGE BANK VAULT...
THIS BANK IS BURGLAR-PROOF! EVEN IF CROOKS EVER DID GET IN HERE, THEY'D NEVER BREAK INTO THAT VAULT! THAT STEEL DOOR IS FIVE FEET THICK!
YET WHEN MORNING COMES AND THE MASSIVE VAULT DOORS SWING OPEN...
THE VAULT'S BEEN ROBBED! S-SOMEONE BROKE IN HERE DURING THE NIGHT!
IT'S THE PHANTOM CROOK AGAIN! BUT HOW COULD HE GET IN HERE?
THANKS! THE PHANTOM BANDIT!
THIS IS A MYSTERY THAT PUZZLES ALL OF GOTHAM CITY, AS THE BAFFLING ROBBERIES CONTINUE...
THE ARMORED CAR... ROBBED! B-BUT I LEFT THE DOOR LOCKED... AND I HAVE THE KEY RIGHT HERE IN MY POCKET!
THE PAYROLL MONEY IS MISSING!
THANKS! THE PHANTOM BANDIT!
SHORTLY AFTERWARD, VICKI VALE, REPORTER FOR A PICTURE WEEKLY, PAYS A VISIT TO POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
MY MAGAZINE ASSIGNED ME TO THE CASE OF THE PHANTOM CROOK! ANY NEW LEADS, COMMISSIONER?
NO... BUT I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CALL IN TWO SLEUTHS WHO MAY BE ABLE TO HELP US!
A BEAM OF LIGHT PROJECTS A FAMILIAR SYMBOL AGAINST THE EVENING SKY... THE BAT-SIGNAL!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! THEY'VE NEVER FAILED YET!
YOUR PHONE IS RINGING, COMMISSIONER!
WHAT? SEND OUT AN ALARM! GET EVERY AVAILABLE MAN TO THE SCENE AT ONCE! THAT MAN MAY BE THE ONE WE'RE AFTER, THE PHANTOM BANDIT!
2

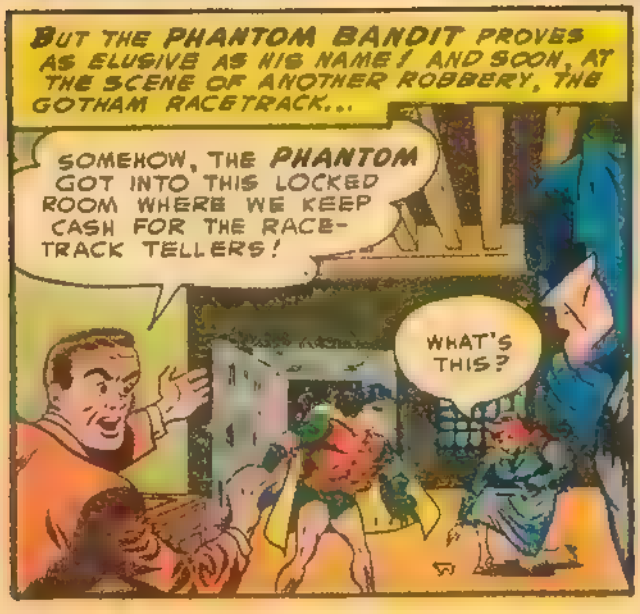
A MASKED MAN WAS SPOTTED LURKING NEAR THE TONG HOUSE IN CHINATOWN! THAT'S THE SITE OF THE FAMED DRAGON VAULT... A PERFECT TARGET FOR THE PHANTOM BANDIT!
THAT'S WHERE THE SAVINGS OF ALL THE TONG MEMBERS ARE KEPT!
MEANWHILE, IN THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE, WEALTHY SOCIALITE, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
THE BAT-SIGNAL! COMMISSIONER GORDON IS CALLING US, DICK!
I'LL BET I KNOW WHY!
SECONDS LATER, AS THE BATMOBILE ROARS IN ACTION!
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING HIM TO CALL US IN ON THE PHANTOM BANDIT MYSTERY!
HUSH, I'M GETTING SOMETHING ON THE POLICE SHORTWAVE!
... ALL POLICE CARS PROCEED AT ONCE TO THE HIP LEE TONG HOUSE! PHANTOM BANDIT MAY BE ON THE PREMISES!
HEAR THAT, ROBIN?
LET'S GO!
IN THE INNER CHAMBER OF THE TONG HOUSE, THE FORMIDABLE DRAGON VAULT YIELDS ITS SECRET FOR THE FIRST TIME TO A STRANGER...
A NEAT HAUL! LET THE SAPS TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW I CRACKED THIS TIN CAN!
ABRUPTLY...
I'VE GOT A BETTER SUGGESTION...
BATMAN AND ROBIN!
3

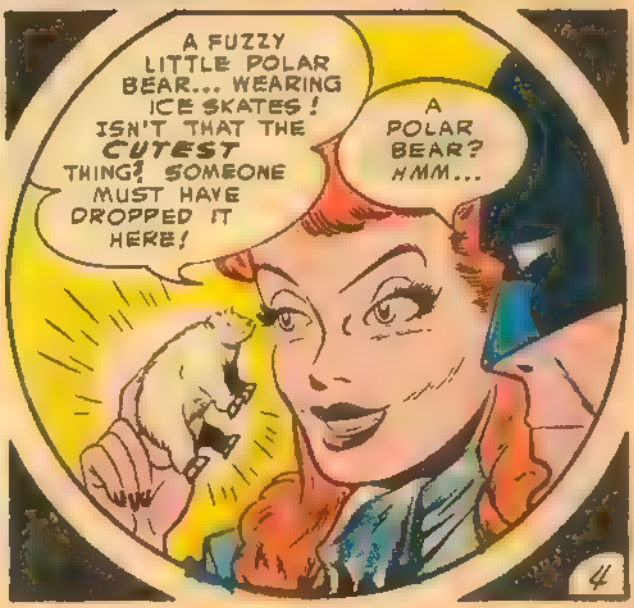

YOU TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW YOU'RE GOING TO GET OUT OF HERE!


CAREENING AGAINST THE HUGE METAL DRAGON, THE PHANTOM BANDIT SETS OFF A SECRET TRIGGER MECHANISM AND...
LOOK OUT, ROBIN!


MY EYES! I--- I CAN'T SEE...
YOU'LL RECOVER... BUT IT WAS A CLOSE CALL! THAT DEVICE MUST HAVE BEEN INSTALLED TO TAKE CARE OF ANYONE WHO BROKE INTO THE DRAGON VAULT!


BUT, SOMEHOW, THE PHANTOM BANDIT OPENED THE VAULT... AND NEVER SET OFF THE ALARM! I WONDER HOW HE DOES IT?
TOO BAD HE GOT AWAY, BATMAN! NEXT TIME HE WON'T BE SO LUCKY!


BUT THE PHANTOM BANDIT PROVES AS ELUSIVE AS HIS NAME! AND SOON, AT THE SCENE OF ANOTHER ROBBERY, THE GOTHAM RACETRACK...
SOMEHOW, THE PHANTOM GOT INTO THIS LOCKED ROOM WHERE WE KEEP CASH FOR THE RACE-TRACK TELLERS!
WHAT'S THIS?


A FUZZY LITTLE POLAR BEAR... WEARING ICE SKATES! ISN'T THAT THE CUTEST THING? SOMEONE MUST HAVE DROPPED IT HERE!
A POLAR BEAR? HMM...

LATER, IN BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME...
WHY DO WE HAVE TO GET TOGGED OUT IN THESE FANCY OUTFITS?
THE POLAR BEAR NIGHT CLUB IS THE SWANKIEST SPOT IN TOWN! THAT'S WHERE THE LITTLE SOUVENIR POLAR BEAR CAME FROM! AND IT WAS PROBABLY DROPPED BY THE PHANTOM!
IF THE PHANTOM VISITED THERE ONCE, HE MAY AGAIN! WE MIGHT RECOGNIZE HIM ... EVEN WITHOUT HIS MASK!
VICKI DIDN'T REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT IT WAS! OR SHE'D BE HOT ON THE TRAIL, TRYING TO GET A SCOOP!
THE POLAR BEAR CLUB! NEWEST RAGE OF THE GOTHAM CITY SMART SET...
A TABLE FOR TWO, PLEASE!
RIGHT THIS WAY, MR. WAYNE!
SAY, BRUCE, LOOK WHO'S SITTING OVER THERE! VICKI!
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE SHREWDNESS OF A WOMAN! SHE PLAYED DUMB... SO NOBODY ELSE WOULD FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE SOUVENIR HERE!
MOMENTS LATER, THE LIGHTS DIM... AND THE FEATURE ACT OF THE EVENING MAKES ITS APPEARANCE...
THE GREAT SWAMI... THE MAN WHO CAN READ MINDS... WILL ENTERTAIN YOU!
AS THE GREAT SWAMI'S ATTRACTIVE ASSISTANT SKATES TO ONE AFTER ANOTHER OF THE RINK-SIDE TABLES...
MR. MELVER IS THINKING OF THE ITEMS HE GAVE ME... WHICH I HOLD WRAPPED IN THIS HANDKERCHIEF!
HIS THOUGHTS ARE COMING THROUGH! THERE IS... A LADY'S COMPACT... A DIAMOND BROOCH... A KEY CHAIN... AND A SILVER DOLLAR!
5

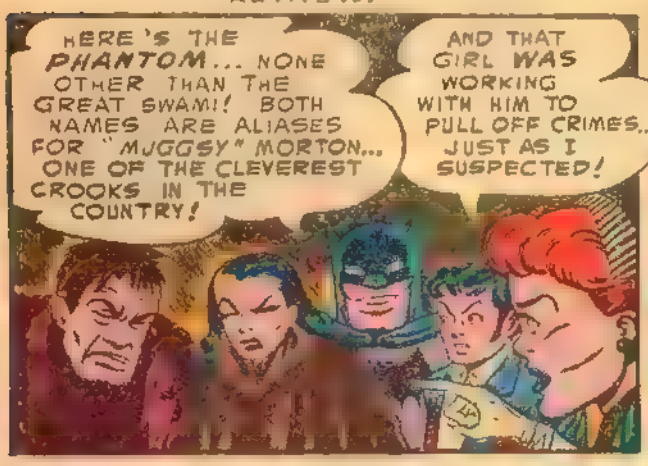
CRACKLING APPLAUSE ANSWERS THE GREAT SWAMI'S ASTOUNDING PERFORMANCE! BUT BRUCE WAYNE'S SHARP EYES NOTE A PECULIAR FACT...
CAN HE REALLY READ MINDS, BRUCE?
HMM! THE FLOWERS IN THAT CORSAGE THE SWAMI'S ASSISTANT IS WEARING ARE WILTED AT THE CENTER INSTEAD OF AT THE EDGES LIKE MOST FLOWERS!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR THOUGHTS READ, SIR?
SAY! CAN YOU USE ANOTHER GOOD ACT? LOOK AT THIS! I CAN PLAY A TUNE ON A WATER GOBLET!
IF I'M RIGHT, A PIERCING HIGH SOUND SHOULD PUT THEIR MIND-READING ACT OUT OF COMMISSION!
BOINNG!
WHEN THE PERFORMERS DEPART, BRUCE EXPLAINS
THE SWAMI'S ASSISTANT WEARS A CORSAGE OF FLOWERS OVER A TINY MICROPHONE! A HIGH, SHRILL SOUND OVER THAT MIKE, INJURED THE DIAPHRAGM, WHICH MAGNIFIES THE SOUND! WITHOUT IT, THEY COULDN'T DO THEIR MIND-READING ACT!
"IT'S A SIMPLE BUT INGENIOUS ACT! AS THE GIRL TAKES OBJECTS FROM PATRONS, SHE MENTIONS WHAT THEY ARE... AND HER LOW WHISPER IS RELAYED TO A RECEIVING SET IN THE SWAMI'S TURBAN..."
...A LADY'S COMPACT... A DIAMOND BROOCH...
RECEIVER IN TURBAN
MICROPHONE IN CORSAGE
AFTER THEIR VISIT TO THE POLAR BEAR CLUB, BRUCE WAYNE DOES SOME FURTHER INVESTIGATION. AND THE FOLLOWING DAY...
I CHECKED PEOPLE INVOLVED IN ROBBERIES BY THE PHANTOM BANDIT! ALL OF THEM HAD BEEN PATRONS AT THE POLAR BEAR CLUB... AND WERE INTERVIEWED BY THE SWAMI!
THAT PROVES A TIE-UP... BETWEEN THE PHANTOM BANDIT AND THE SWAMI!
WE'LL COVER THE HOMES OF THE PEOPLE INTERVIEWED BY THE SWAMI LAST NIGHT! I'M CERTAIN ONE OF THEM WILL BE THE PHANTOM'S NEXT TARGET!

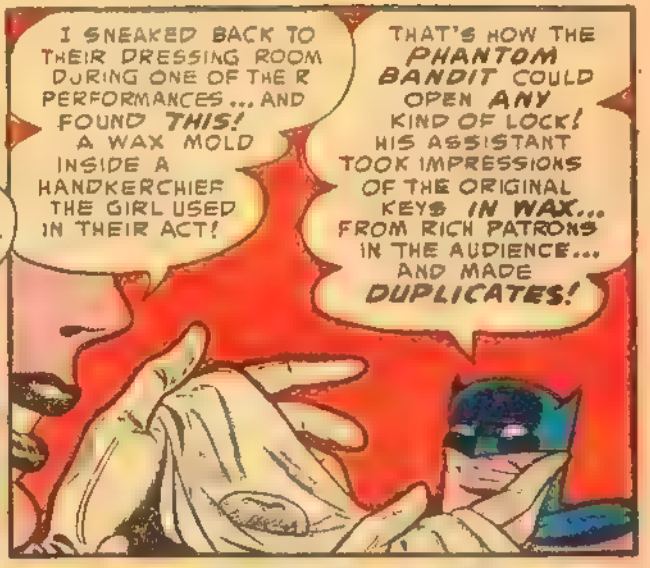
AS EVENING FALLS, A SILENT, MASKED FIGURE MERGES WITH THE SHADOWS NEAR THE HOME OF THOMAS MELZER, RENOWNED ART COLLECTOR...
I DRUGGED THE WATCH-DOGS! NOW TO VISIT MELZER'S PRIVATE ART GALLERY!
MELZER KEEPS HIS MOST PRECIOUS POSSESSIONS BEHIND THAT LOCKED STEEL DOOR! IT WON'T BE HARD FOR ME TO OPEN! HA-HA-HA!
BUT SECONDS LATER...
BATMAN AND ROBIN! BUT HOW...?
SWIFTLY RECOVERING FROM SURPRISE, THE PHANTOM BANDIT STRIKES..
I KNOW I'M BEING IMPOLITE! BUT YOU'RE NOT WELCOME!
AS THE WILY BANDIT FLEES...
ONE CHANCE TO STOP HIM! IF I CAN CRASH THIS OVER HIS HEAD...
BATMAN! NO!
THE ANGUISHED CRY HALTS THE DAZED BATMAN IN MID-MOTION, AND...
I'M SORRY IF THE PHANTOM BANDIT ESCAPED, BATMAN! BUT I COULDN'T LET YOU DESTROY THIS VASE! IT'S FROM THE CHEN-LI DYNASTY!
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WORTH THE PRICE...TO CAPTURE THAT BANDIT! I WAS STILL TOO ROCKY FROM THAT BLOW I RECEIVED TO GO AFTER HIM MYSELF!
GOOD HEAVENS! HE ENTERED MY PRIVATE VAULT! BUT--BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE KEY... AND I HAVE IT! HOW COULD HE...?
THAT'S ONE MYSTERY I HAVEN'T SOLVED. THE PHANTOM'S AMAZING ABILITY TO OPEN ANY LOCK!

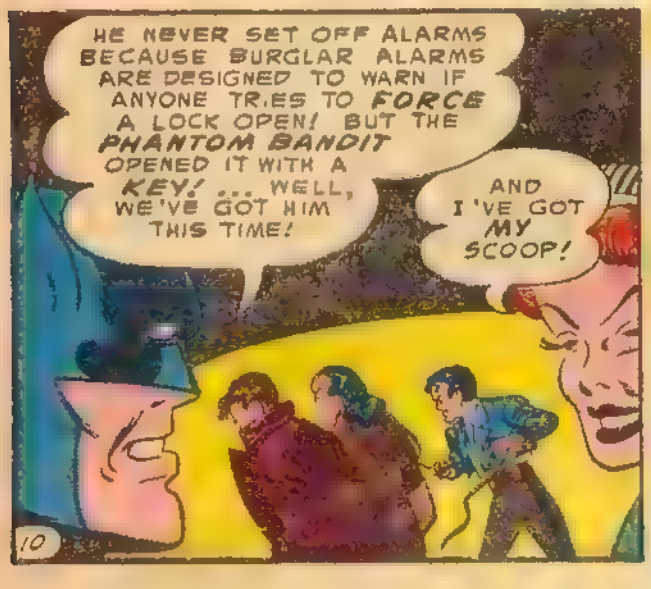
THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHILE BRUCE WAYNE IS AWAY, DICK GRAYSON HAS A VISITOR...
VICKI VALE! HOW NICE! BRUCE ISN'T HERE, BUT...
I DIDN'T COME TO SEE BRUCE! I CAME TO SEE YOU, DICK! I NEED YOUR HELP!
WHEN VICKI OUTLINES HER PLAN...
I'M SURE I'VE FIGURED OUT HOW THE PHANTOM BANDIT OPERATES! WILL YOU COOPERATE?
ER... I'D BE GLAD TO, VICKI!
FROM WHAT VICKI TOLD ME, SHE MAY HAVE THE RIGHT ANSWERS!
A SHORT TIME LATER, A SMALL ITEM APPEARS IN A GOTHAM CITY NEWSPAPER...
WEALTHY SOUTH AMERICAN SCION VISITS HERE
Don Alvarez, son of an Argentine jewel merchant, has arrived in Gotham to dispose of a fortune in rubies! The jewels, under lock and key in the young man's hotel room are valued at
LATER, "DON ALVAREZ" PAYS A VISIT TO THE POLAR BEAR CLUB WITH REPORTER VICKI VALE!
THIS IS NEVER GOING TO WORK, VICKI! THEY'LL KNOW I'M NOT A SOUTH AMERICAN! AND IF THAT SWAMI CAN REALLY READ MINDS, WE'RE SUNK!
JUST ANSWER, "SI, SI" TO QUESTIONS... AND EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY, DICK!
AND WHEN THE GREAT SWAMI PERFORMS...
DON ALVAREZ IS THINKING OF THE ITEMS I HOLD IN THIS HANDKERCHIEF!
THERE IS... A SILVER DOLLAR... AND THE KEY TO HIS HOTEL ROOM!
AS SOON AS THE PERFORMANCE ENDS, THE DISGUISED DICK GRAYSON AND VICKI VALE RETURN TO A LAVISH HOTEL SUITE...
THE FIRST PART OF OUR JOB IS DONE! IF I'M RIGHT, THE PHANTOM BANDIT WILL ARRIVE SOON TO SEARCH FOR THE RUBIES SUPPOSED TO BE HIDDEN HERE!
BATMAN ISN'T FAR AWAY! I HOPE THE PHANTOM DOES SHOW UP!
AT THIS MOMENT, OUTSIDE...
A FEW DROPS OF THIS IN THE AIR CONDITIONER WILL TAKE CARE OF DON ALVAREZ! THE FAN WILL CIRCULATE IT AS A FINE SPRAY THROUGH THE ROOM!
HURRY... BEFORE SOMEONE COMES!

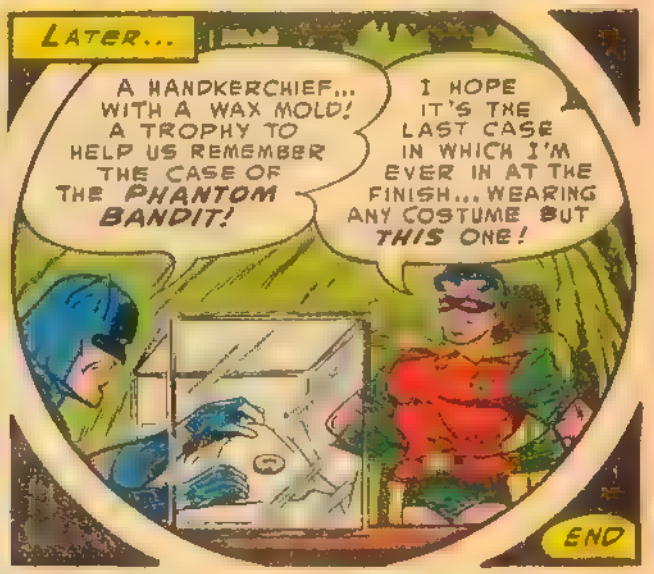
AS THE WHIRRING FAN SPEEDS THE ALMOST INVISIBLE SPRAY THROUGH THE ROOM...
GOLLY...I'M TIRED! CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OPEN...ZZZ!
ME, TOO, VICKI! I COULD JUST FALL ASLEEP, AND... SAY! SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG!
WE'RE BEING... DRUGGED! IF I CAN... ONLY... REACH...WINDOW...
INSTANTS LATER...
OPENING THE DOOR IS A CINCH... WHEN YOU HAVE THE KEY! HA, HA!
BUT FINDING THE RUBIES WON'T BE SO EASY! THAT'S WHY I CAME ALONG TO HELP THIS TIME!
FROM ACROSS THE STREET, STEELY EYES WATCH...
DICK'S IN TROUBLE! THE PHANTOM BANDIT GOT THE BEST OF HIM! NO TIME TO PUT OUR ORIGINAL PLAN INTO EFFECT NOW!
DICK WANTED ME TO CREATE A DIVERSION...SO HE COULD JOIN ME AS ROBIN FOR THE KILL! BUT IT'S UP TO ME ALONE NOW!
TIMING HIS LEAP WITH AMAZING SKILL, THE ACRO-BATMAN ZOOMS SKYWARD WITH THE RECOIL OF THE LIGHT METAL FLAGPOLE...
I'D BETTER JUDGE THE DISTANCE CORRECTLY! IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN TO THE STREET!
BATMAN'S DARING PAYS OFF... IN A CRASHING ENTRANCE!
9

AFTER A BRIEF SCUFFLE, **BATMAN** IS MASTER OF THE SITUATION! WHEN DICK GRAYSON AND VICKI VALE REVIVE...


HERE'S THE PHANTOM... NONE OTHER THAN THE GREAT SWAMI! BOTH NAMES ARE ALIASES FOR "MUGGSY" MORTON... ONE OF THE CLEVEREST CROOKS IN THE COUNTRY!
AND THAT GIRL WAS WORKING WITH HIM TO PULL OFF CRIMES... JUST AS I SUSPECTED!


I SNEAKED BACK TO THEIR DRESSING ROOM DURING ONE OF THE R PERFORMANCES... AND FOUND THIS! A WAX MOLD INSIDE A HANDKERCHIEF THE GIRL USED IN THEIR ACT!
THAT'S HOW THE PHANTOM BANDIT COULD OPEN ANY KIND OF LOCK! HIS ASSISTANT TOOK IMPRESSIONS OF THE ORIGINAL KEYS IN WAX... FROM RICH PATRONS IN THE AUDIENCE... AND MADE DUPLICATES!


HE NEVER SET OFF ALARMS BECAUSE BURGLAR ALARMS ARE DESIGNED TO WARN IF ANYONE TRIES TO FORCE A LOCK OPEN! BUT THE PHANTOM BANDIT OPENED IT WITH A KEY! ... WELL, WE'VE GOT HIM THIS TIME!
AND I'VE GOT MY SCOOP!
10


LATER...
A HANDKERCHIEF... WITH A WAX MOLD! A TROPHY TO HELP US REMEMBER THE CASE OF THE PHANTOM BANDIT!
I HOPE IT'S THE LAST CASE IN WHICH I'M EVER IN AT THE FINISH... WEARING ANY COSTUME BUT THIS ONE!
END

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF BATMAN, published Bi-monthly at New York, N. Y for October 1, 1953.

1. The names and addresses of the Publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.; Editor, F. W. Ellsworth, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17 N Y; Managing Editor, none; Business Manager, J. S. Liebowitz, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given) National Comics Publications, Inc., H. Donenfeld, J. S. Liebowitz, P. H. Sampliner, G Donenfeld, R. Liebowitz, S. U Sampliner, J. S Liebowitz & A. I Menin as Trustees for I. Donenfeld and S. Donenfeld, A. I. Menin & J. I. Gohnko as Trustees for L. Liebowitz and J. Liebowitz, A. Donenfeld, F. Iger, H. Donenfeld Foundation, Inc. (a non-stock corp., H. Donenfeld, Pres., A. I. Menin, Sec'y.), I. Donenfeld, all at 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs shows the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

J. S. LIEBOWITZ, Business Manager.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September, 1953.
ALFRED B. YAFFE, Notary Public
(My Commission expires March 30, 1954).

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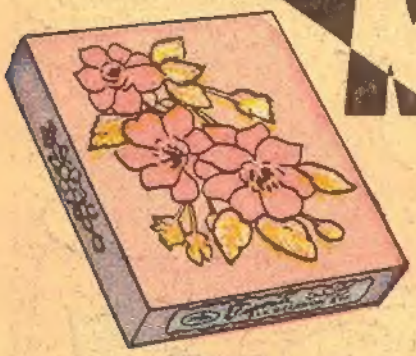

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8. YOU, YOU, YOU
9. WITH THESE HANDS
10. EH! CUMPARI
11. SONG FROM MOULIN ROUGE
12. MANY TIMES
13. WALKING MY BABY BACK HOME
14. BUTTERFLIES
15. GOD BLESS US ALL
16. STORY OF THREE LOVES
17. NO OTHER LOVE
18. MY LOVE, MY LOVE

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8. IS ZAT YOU, MYRTLE?
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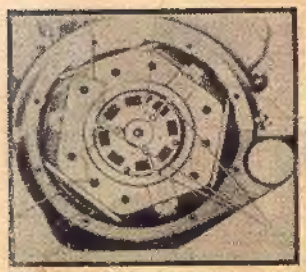

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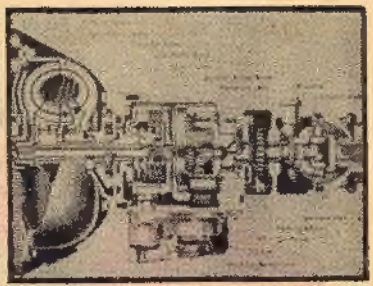

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